

by G. S.

Mellor defends penal policy

Inmate dies as riots hit eight prisons

By Richard Ford, Ray Clancy and Ronald Faux

THE series of disturbances in Britain's jails claimed another death last night.

A prisoner was found dead in a fire-damaged cell at Dartmoor jail when 100 rioting inmates gave themselves up after 24 hours of trouble in the category B prison.

The end of the disturbance came as a minister strongly defended the Government's penal policy and its handling of the unrest.

During the day there were skirmishes between prison officers and inmates at eight other jails, while at Strangeways in Manchester, Britain's longest-running prison, rioting continued its second week.

Trouble broke out at Cardiff, Hull, Leeds, Bristol, Long Lartin, Bristol, Shepton Mallett, and Pentonville, north London.

The ending of the Dartmoor protest came after one of the worst days in the history of Britain's prison service.

The latest disturbances broke out at Bristol prison last night, where officers withdrew from A wing after 200 remain prisoners were involved in a disturbance. Fifteen climbed on to the roof and began hurling tiles to the ground; they waved a banner reading "Dartmoor boys on tour".

After the prisoner was found dead in Dartmoor, Devon, and Cornwall police began an inquiry, and a pathologist from the Home Office was called in.

Mr Alan May, the governor, declined to give any details of

the death and said it was not yet known how and when the fire had been started.

At Strangeways, about 20 inmates still defied efforts of prison officers and police to dislodge them, while two prison officers at Cardiff jail and three in Bristol received injuries during disturbances.

In Armley jail, Leeds, prisoners returned to their cells after staging a sit-down protest in the exercise yard.

Mr David Mellor, Minister of State at the Home Office, strongly rejected criticism that the rioting at Strangeways should have been ended by force and described the unrest at Dartmoor as a "copycat incident".

Speaking on TV-am, he was in no doubt where blame for the troubles in the prisons lay: "People say the Government is on the rack. It should be the prisoners on the rack."

He said people should be careful about saying prisoners were protesting objectively against conditions.

What those men did at Strangeways was to attack other prisoners and injure some of them seriously, even though it would appear nothing like as bad as some of the wild rumours that were being reported in the press last week."

Criticizing the media for reporting rumour as fact, Mr Mellor admitted there could be one or two bodies at Strangeways.

"There might be one or two grisly discoveries and possibly there may be nothing at all," he said on a day which he admitted had been a very difficult for the British prison system.

He condemned earlier "rather dreadful reporting of 20 dead" and said reports of rumour as fact had not been confined to the tabloid press.

Although some Conservative MPs have called for the troubles at Strangeways to be ended by force, Mr Mellor said: "The situation continues because the state of the buildings makes it too dangerous for direct action to be attempted without risks of further injury and loss of life."

He had received strong operational advice that it would not be right to run these risks, he said. He added however that the same considerations did not necessarily apply to incidents at other prisons.

Mr Mellor said certain steps had been taken at Dartmoor in advance because the authorities had had an hint of trouble.

Half a dozen people regarded as troublemakers were isolated and other steps were taken, and the trouble was contained. If people want to

Prison death, page 2
Treating prisoners, page 12

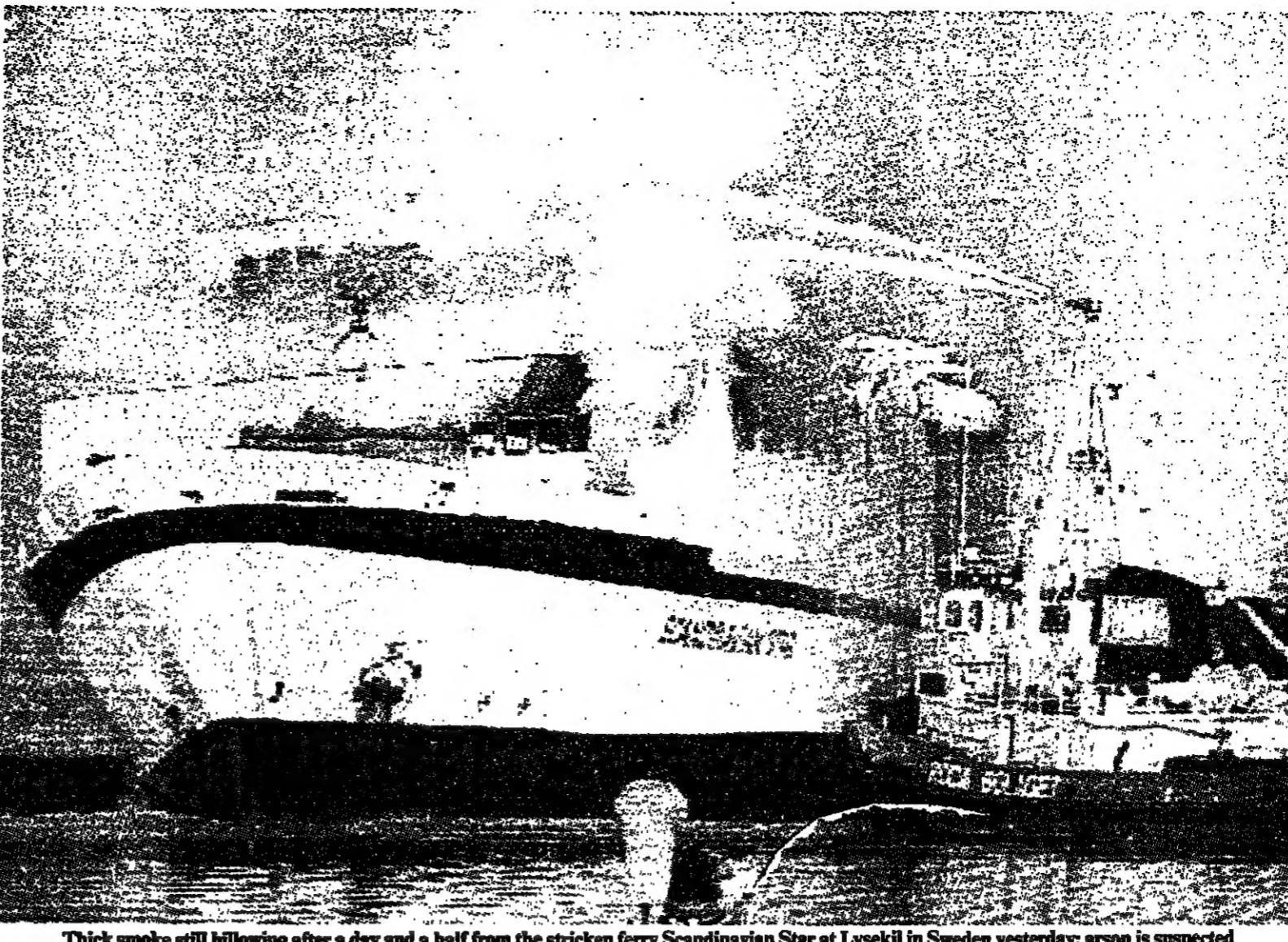
Frenchman charged

From Susan MacDonald, Cherbourg

A FRENCHMAN with a history of violent crime was yesterday charged with the murder of a young British woman, whose body was discovered in her office in Cherbourg last week.

Police said M Jean-Marie Chanteux, aged 25, was charged with the murder of Alison Dutton, aged 24, who was repeatedly stabbed in an apparently motiveless murder on Wednesday. He was also been charged with the at-

Full report, page 22



Thick smoke still billowing after a day and a half from the stricken ferry Scandinavian Star at Lysekil in Sweden yesterday: arson is suspected

Labour shapes election policy

By Philip Webster
Chief Political Correspondent

THE Labour Party is preparing to build on its surge in public support by publishing an "early manifesto", which will be the platform for a campaign of 18 months to two years for the next general election.

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Dartmoor prisoner is found dead in burnt-out cell

By Ray Clancy

A PRISONER was found dead in a burnt-out cell after the Dartmoor Prison riot ended last night, 24 hours after 100 inmates had started the unrest.

The inmates had taken control of the Devon prison's D-wing, destroying most of the wing and starting fires.

The death was confirmed by Mr John May, the prison governor. He said that the wing had been extensively damaged.

A Home Office pathologist was called to the prison and Mr Brian Phillips, assistant constable, operations, of Devon and Cornwall police, said his force would be investigating.

The prisoners had progres-

sively given themselves up during the day and were fed and relocated in other parts of the Victorian jail. Officers immediately searched D wing.

"Tragically we have discovered a body in a cell in which there had been a fire," Mr May said.

Two prisoners surrendered last night. They had called to the ground, where trained negotiators were in position, and a fire brigade hoist was manoeuvred alongside the roof of C-wing and the men climbed on board and were taken to the ground.

However, as the clean-up operation began inside the jail a single prisoner carried on with a lone protest on the roof. He could be seen jumping on

the roof and waving his arms around and occasionally appeared to be kicking at a few tiles, though he did not throw them.

Mr May said there was no confrontation when prison officers regained control. "We received into our custody all those people who surrendered, our staff and their colleagues from elsewhere did a sweep through the wing and confirmed that there was no one left apart from one inmate on the roof," he said.

Mr May confirmed that doors were ripped from the cells, tiles from the roof and furniture thrown around during the riot. "It looks very messy at the moment, there is a lot of debris," he said.

Mr May denied, however, that he and his colleagues could have done anything more to prevent the disturbance. "We were faced with a small group of prisoners, who managed to incite some of their comrades."

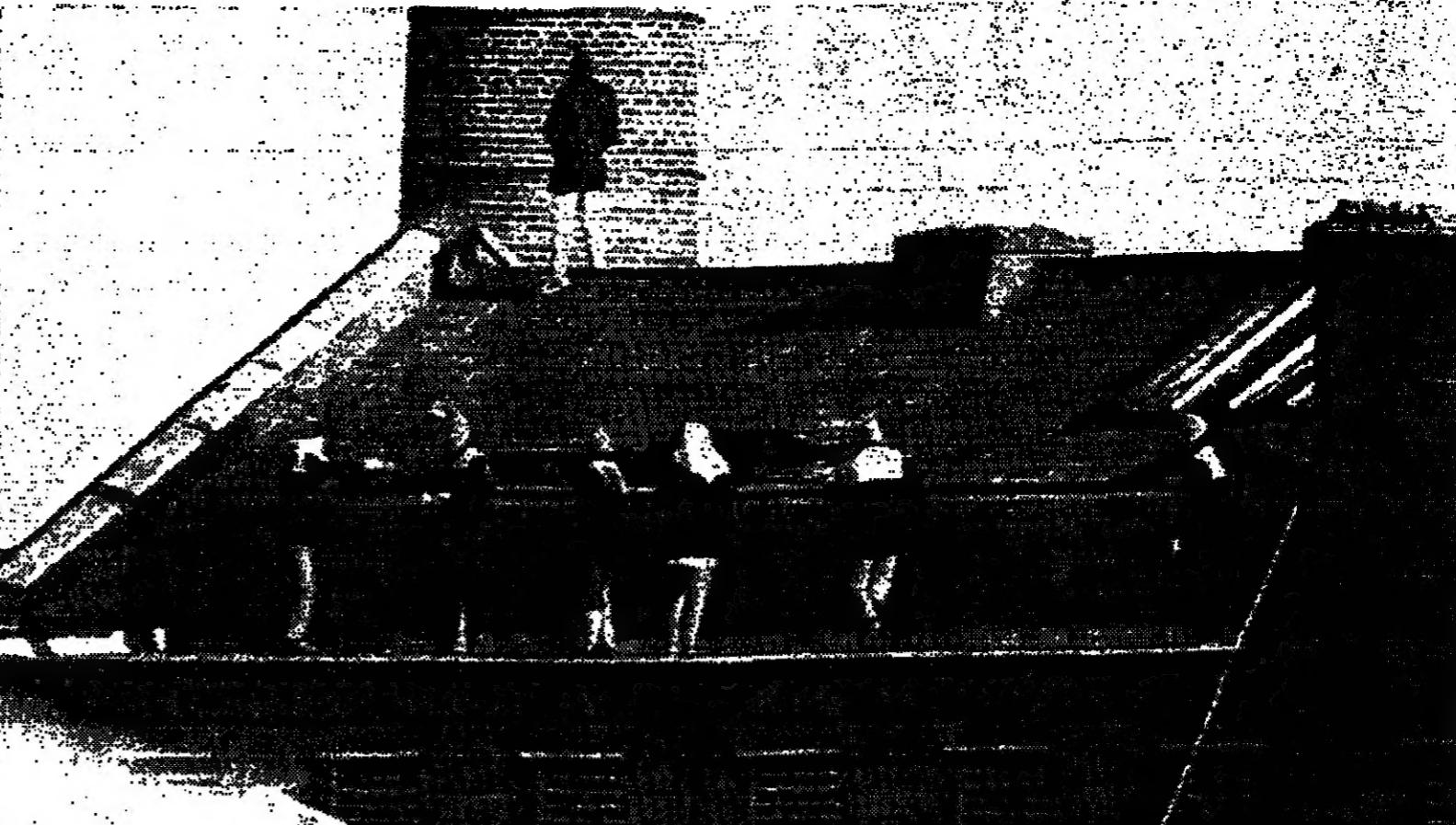
Plans to end the degrading practice of "slopping out" in prisons are likely to be accelerated after the jail disturbances, it emerged yesterday (Quentin Cowdry writes).

Mr David Waddington, the Home Secretary, has ordered officials to draw up a timetable for the introduction of integral sanitation in all prison cells in England and Wales.

April 7, 1800: Over 100 prisoners take control after refusing to return to cells after recreation period. Prisoners on roof.

To Princetown Gate To Rundestone

Administrative Block C & D Wings Cobble yard Perimeter wall NORTH



Rooftop prisoners ripping off tiles at the height of the disturbances at Dartmoor jail yesterday. Most had come down by last night

Fortress jail's history of unrest

Dartmoor is a 184-year-old granite fortress built 1,100 feet up at one of the windiest and wettest places in the country, Princetown in Devon. Originally built to house French prisoners during the Napoleonic wars, it has long had a reputation as a prison from which it was impossible to escape.

The building was described as grim and insanitary forty years ago, and its future was even then said to be under consideration. In 1960 the Prison Commission put forward plans to build a new jail on a less conspicuous site at

Princetown and to demolish the existing buildings, but shortage of prison accommodation brought such plans to nothing.

Since the 1960s it has been classified as a medium-security prison, and conditions for inmates have been improved.

Even so, the jail, described by a former governor Mr David Thomson, as "a human cauldron", has been plagued with problems over recent years.

Overcrowding, under-staffing and still poor conditions have strained the regime of the present governor, Mr John May, to breaking point. Twice his own prison

officers have passed votes of no confidence in his administration.

In October 1986, 30 prisoners went on the rampage smashing fittings and fittings.

In July 1987, 50 prisoners staged a sit-down strike and a rooftop protest. The next month it was disclosed that 40 inmates had been disciplined for drug-taking.

In October last year three prison guards were hurt restraining prisoners threatening a sex offender. This January, 90 prisoners rioted when a goal was disallowed during a football match.

Officers injured in new unrest

By Robin Young

Disturbances erupted at several prisons yesterday as the protest at Strangeways entered its second week, and prison officers' leaders warned of a state of smashover in Britain's jails.

Five prison officers were injured yesterday, two at Cardiff and three in Brixton, south London.

More than 100 prisoners were involved in a disturbance at Cardiff jail. An officer was attacked and his keys taken from him. While 110 prisoners gave themselves up, 95 refused to return to their cells and barricaded themselves in part of the wing.

Furniture and windows were smashed and bedding was set alight. By 11.20am another 86 inmates had given themselves up.

Prison officers from Bristol, Swansea and Shepton Mallet, Somerset, were taken to reinforce the Cardiff officers.

Mr Alan Rawson, the prison governor, said he could not discount the possibility that some of the 50 prisoners transferred from Strangeways could have been among the leaders of the riot.

Three prison officers received minor injuries at Brixton when they had to force prisoners to return to their cells. A handful of prisoners had refused to return from the exercise yard.

The officers were taken to Kings College Hospital but released after treatment.

At Armley jail, Leeds, prisoners were returned to their cells after staging a sit-down protest. Extra staff had been called in and the situation was under control.

Armley is Britain's most overcrowded prison and has been the focus of concern over suicides. Its official capacity is 642 but this week it was holding more than 1,300 after 71 prisoners were transferred from Strangeways.

Yesterday afternoon prison authorities in Hull asked police for help because of a "state of unrest". Police were on standby but the situation was being controlled.

In Shepton Mallet, prisoners were under a lock-up after a minor disturbance, and at Long Lartin top-security jail near Evesham, Hereford and Worcester — scene of an attempted mass breakout earlier this week — a prisoner staged a protest on the roof but was talked down by officers.

There was also a small disturbance at Pentonville prison, north London, when an inmate pulled a gas pipe from a wall.

Mr John Bartell, the Prison Officers' Association chairman, said yesterday: "What we have in the prison service, and have had for a number of years now, is unsupervised anarchy. I am afraid ministers cannot be allowed blindly to come up with excuses."

He said the prison officers had warned of more problems in jails unless the number of staff was increased.

Mellor stays in firing line as troubles spread

By Richard Ford and Stewart Teather

AS disturbances broke out in more of Britain's jails yesterday, it was David Mellor who again bore the brunt of the Government's defending the Government's position.

The ebullient Minister of State at the Home Office was firmly in the firing line as he sorted from television studio to radio studio as he does since the troubles erupted at Strangeways prison.

In between media appearances he was in almost constant touch with his officials at the Home Office receiving updates on the situation around the country.

Mr Mellor's work began at 8am when he telephoned from his home in Putney, south London, to the control centre handling the prison crisis at Cleland House in central London.

After being briefed, he travelled to TV-am in north London, reading the newspapers on the way and talking by car phone to a Conservative MP also commenting on the prison problems yesterday.

At 10.40am Mr Mellor was at the BBC's Broadcasting House to listen to a package prepared for *The World This Weekend* broadcast at lunchtime and then took part in two interviews, one on the prison problems and the other on today's *World* Ministerial Drugs Summit.

At 11.25am the minister was on his way home to play with his sons for 45 minutes, and catch part of the Crystal Palace v Liverpool football match in between speaking to the Home Secretary, journalists and the Home Office press office.

He read through papers for a meeting of the Pompidou Group last night before heading for the Queen Elizabeth II Centre, Westminster, where the drugs summit is being held. He arrived at 4pm and at 5pm he chaired an hour-long press briefing. At 6.25pm he gave a briefing to British journalists on the latest



Mr Mellor: hectic day of interviews and briefings

Siege enters second week

By Ronald Fairbairn

THE siege at Strangeways Prison in Manchester yesterday entered its second week with about 20 inmates still defying the efforts of prison officers and police to dislodge them from the ruins of two prison blocks.

Water has been cut off to the rioters, who are subjected to a constant barrage of shrill klaxon sounds and, at night, the sweeping beam of powerful searchlight, a son et lumiere that the prison authorities hope will bring a peaceful end to the longest prison siege in Britain, a

confrontation that has sparked disturbances at several other prisons.

Staff at Strangeways yesterday attended a Palm Sunday service held in the officers' mess building because the chapel, where the riot began, is wrecked. Prayers were said for Mr Derek White, aged 56, the inmate who died from injuries received during the riot, and for Mr Walter Scott, aged 46, a Strangeways prison officer who died from a heart attack last week.

The Rev John Hargreaves, assistant chaplain-general of

prisons for the north of England, called for an end to the "inhumanity of overcrowding" at Strangeways.

The Home Office said yesterday that the inquiry into the riot by Lord Justice Woolf would look into a report that it began as a diversion for a breakout by about 40 inmates using hammer drills being used by contractors to renovate the 120-year-old prison.

The report suggested that inmates had hoped to escape using tunnels leading from the ventilation shaft, but had found them impassable.

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School governors 'denied control of £400,000 a year'

By Douglas Broom, Education Reporter

THE FAILURE of local authorities fully to implement the Government's scheme for giving school governors control of their budgets was costing some schools up to £400,000 a year, Mr John MacGregor said yesterday.

The Secretary of State for Education and Science, addressing the annual conference of the Secondary Heads Association in Manchester, dismissed "scare stories" about large-scale teacher redundancies and said that many jobs could be safeguarded if schools were allowed full control of their budgets.

The 87 English authorities which began implementing the system of delegating budgets to schools from April 1 were holding back an average of 32 per cent of their gross budgets to cover centrally provided services, according to the minister.

There was no need in law for them to retain more than an eighth of their available cash for services such as payroll, school building and special government projects.

Tax-capping 'risk to pupils'

By Douglas Broom

THE education of thousands of children in England is threatened by the Government's decision to "cap" the community charge levied by 20 councils, the leader of Britain's secondary school heads said yesterday.

Mr John Horn, president of the Secondary Heads Association, told his annual conference in Manchester that poll tax capping was one of the gravest threats to the quality of education.

He said: "We will not rest until we have won assurances that education will be protected by the Government from the effects of capping."

Speaking at the end of the three-day conference, after private talks with Mr John MacGregor, Secretary of State for Education and Science, Mr Horn said: "We have told him that he must protect education."

Of 20 councils capped last week, 18 are education authorities and the Labour Party has predicted that almost 3,000 teachers' jobs could be lost if capping cuts are made from education budgets.

Mr Horn said: "It is the single issue which worries most head teachers in the country today."

"After the problems associated with the introduction of local management schools, this has come as the final straw for many heads who already face reductions in their budgets and their staff."

The conference was told by

he said. Mr MacGregor urged head teachers and school governors to put pressure on local authorities to delegate more of their budgets.

That could be achieved by encouraging them to offer services such as careers advice, school libraries, cleaning and school meals on "an agency or consultancy basis" — letting the schools themselves decide whether to buy services from the authority or to look elsewhere.

With the average budget of a large comprehensive school totalling £1.5 million, a change from central provision to local choice could free up to an extra £400,000 which schools could spend as they chose on services or on staff and equipment.

"I can imagine many authorities being put under considerable pressure over the coming months to explain why they are not passing a higher proportion of funds down to schools," the minister said.

As Mr MacGregor spoke, the leader of the second largest teachers' union issued a fresh threat of industrial and legal action over job losses caused by the introduction of self-management for schools.

Mr Nigel de Gruchy, general secretary-designate of the 118,000-member National Association of Schoolmasters/Union of Women Teachers, said "maverick" head teachers and governors were trying to dismiss teachers to balance the books at schools which had received lower budgets than they had expected.

He said the union had evidence that teachers in seven counties already faced redundancy less than a week after the scheme was introduced. He named Cambridgeshire, Cheshire, Hampshire, Kent, Norfolk, Nottinghamshire and Surrey.

A union survey had shown that three in five secondary schools would lose money as a result of the introduction of budgets based on pupil numbers. The average loss would be £63,000 a year or the equivalent of four teachers' salaries.

Mr de Gruchy said his union would not hesitate to take legal action against heads and governors if they attempted to make teachers redundant without following the statutory procedures.

"There is increasing evidence that head teachers and chairmen of governors are siding up to teachers and telling them that they are to be made redundant," he said.

"This practice is deplorable and breaches the statutory requirements for consultations and the proper procedures required in redundancy legislation."

He went on to accuse local authorities of "washing their hands" of the problem and said local strike action would be mounted if necessary to defend teachers at individual schools.

Letters, page 13

'Ferrari of the Skies' poised to revolutionize private flying

By Harvey Elliott, Air Correspondent

A TINY British-designed jet, powered by engines originally planned for use in cruise missiles, may revolutionize the glamourous end of private and business flying.

The four-seater mini executive jet has been designed by Mr Ian Chichester-Miles, the former chief research engineer for British Aerospace at Hatfield.

He predicts huge sales for the 500 mph "Ferrari of the Skies" when it goes on sale within the next three years.

Officially called the Leopard, the jet will have a cruising altitude of about 50,000 ft and a range of more than 1,700 miles, yet have fuel consumption of 20 miles to the gallon.

It will sell for about £450,000 and is expected to be highly popular with wealthy young businessmen, especially in North America.

Mr Chichester-Miles gave up his job eight years ago to concentrate on the design and the first prototype is now flying. The second, fully pressurized, version is due to fly in the autumn of next year, and, if all goes well, to receive its certification in 1993.

Mr Chichester-Miles, at his home at Ayot St Lawrence, Hertfordshire, where much of the design work was done, said: "The existing propeller-driven light aircraft are based on an outmoded formula and there is nothing which is small, fast and affordable around in the market."

"Through my work at Hatfield, I became aware that the advent of small turbine engines designed for cruise missiles and unmanned drones, together with the enormous improvement in electronics and lightweight components,

made such developments feasible. It meant that a small jet could fly high and fast out of almost any airfield and could be offered at a price which many companies or wealthy individuals could afford."

It was a gamble on which he has spent all his savings, but one that he is convinced will pay off soon.

"There seemed to be a bit of a lack of interest from aircraft manufacturers in this area," he said. "I realized that it would be a risk, but if you are to succeed you have to be prepared to have the courage of your convictions."

"I could not ask outside investors to put up cash to back the project until I had something to show them and that this was not just a paper aeroplane."

"I was in the extremely fortunate position of being able to raise the necessary private funds to reach the

taking the aircraft almost to Concorde's cruising height. The Leopard will be able to carry four passengers at 500 mph — twice the speed of existing propeller-driven aircraft.

It is also good to look at — something which I suppose comes through 32 years in the business of aircraft design," Mr Chichester-Miles says.

Most of the structure is made from glass fibre with carbon fibre stiffening and the wings and tail surfaces have been built to an advanced supercritical design to provide very low drag.

British Aerospace estimates that there may be a market worth \$5 billion (£3 billion) a year for private aircraft by the year 2000 and that very small jets such as the Leopard could take nearly 4 per cent of it, providing demand for 100 aircraft a year or 2,000 over the 20 years from 1994 to 2014.

Sir Michael Atiyah, Professor of Mathematics at Oxford University, has been proposed as the next president of the Royal Society, the country's senior learned society founded 330 years ago (Pearce Wright writes).

In an unusual move, the 21-member council of the society has made public its choice for the next five-year presidency, when Sir George Porter steps down in November.

A new president is elected by the society's 1,000 fellows, who include a number of scientists from overseas in addition to leading academics in Britain.

Child legal aid

An upsurge in medical negligence cases, particularly involving brain-damaged children, is expected from today when for the first time about five million children can apply for legal aid in their own right. Under new rules adults involved in personal injury cases will also gain improved access to justice.

Visit decision

Mr Peter Morgan, Institute of Directors director general, will announce today whether its invitation to Mr Charles Haughey, Irish prime minister, to attend a Belfast conference on Wednesday is to stand. "Loyalist" demonstrations are expected.

BAe at Acas

Talks to end a 21-week strike by more than 1,500 British Aerospace workers will be held today at the conciliation service Acas. Manual workers at the BAe factory at Kingston upon Thames, Surrey, are in dispute over their call for a shorter working week.

Polo pupils' first chukker



Novices at the Ascot Park Polo Club near Sunningdale, Berkshire, practise swinging their mallets while standing on upturned crates; the ponies come later

'False' claims on vitamins attacked

VITAMIN pill manufacturers should be banned from claiming that their products can boost children's intelligence, a pharmaceutical company said yesterday.

"Parents are totally confused by conflicting claims and some of the formulations on sale are a disgrace," Mr Pradip Patni, managing director of Vitalia UK, said.

"It cannot be right to encourage parents to dose children with vitamins to make them more intelligent. The only way to ensure children get all the nutrients they need is to make sure they get a healthy balanced diet."

He said two studies published last week contradicted each other about the effect of vitamins on IQ.

Speaking at the Helfex trade exhibition in Birmingham, Mr Patni supported the Consumers' Association's call for stricter controls over "misleading and illegal claims".

• A new method of eliminating the risk of a baby inheriting a genetic disorder has been used by doctors conducting embryo research at Hammersmith hospital, west London (Pearce Wright writes).

The procedure has been developed for use in conjunction with conception by in-vitro fertilization.

It depends on determining the sex in the laboratory before replacing only female embryos in the mother. After unsuccessful attempts, two women are believed to be pregnant with baby girls achieved this way.

The experimental procedure, called pre-implantation diagnosis, was approved by the Voluntary Licensing Authority.

AGENDA

The week ahead

Today The World Ministerial Drugs Summit is opened by the Prime Minister at the Queen Elizabeth II Conference Centre in London and runs until Wednesday. The first Argentine minister to visit Britain since the Falklands conflict, Mr Domingo Cavallo, the Foreign Minister, holds talks with Mr Douglas Hurd, the Foreign Secretary. The annual conference of the Assistant Masters and Mistresses Association opens at Blackpool.

Tomorrow

A conference on the legal implications of protecting the environment opens at the Gloucester Hotel in London.

Wednesday

Mr Charles Haughey, the Irish Prime Minister, makes his first visit to Belfast since the unrest flared up in the 1960s. The Community Action Trust launches its Drug Command campaign against drug misuse. A jewel-encrusted Kutchinsky Easter egg goes on show in London. Young chef and waiter of the year awards are presented at the Grosvenor House Hotel, London.

Thursday

The Queen awards the Maundy Coins at the annual service in Newcastle upon Tyne. A conference, Nutrition in the Nineties, opens at the Royal College of Physicians in Edinburgh.

Good Friday

The Prime Minister and President Bush hold a summit in Bermuda. At the top of the agenda are talks on Europe and German unity, Nato, Lithuania and the Gorbachov-Bush summit at the end of May.

Easter Sunday

On the first anniversary of the Hillsborough soccer disaster a memorial is unveiled at Liverpool's football ground at Anfield.

King puts multi-nation troops plan to France

By Michael Evans, Defence Correspondent

THE GOVERNMENT is to ask the French this week whether they are prepared to join special multinational forces to defend Europe, according to Ministry of Defence sources yesterday.

Mr Tom King, the Secretary of State for Defence, will be meeting M Jean-Pierre Chevénement, his French counterpart, in Paris today, at the start of three days of talks, aimed at increasing military co-operation.

According to the sources, Mr King plans to raise the issue of multinational forces because that is regarded in the ministry as a possible military option for the alliance in a reshaped Europe.

Since it is such a sensitive issue for the French, Mr King will not be pushing M Chevénement to discuss the possibility of rejoining Nato's integrated military structure. France left in 1966, although retaining political membership.

However, Mrs Margaret

troops, according to one senior official involved in the present study of the options for changing Britain's force structures. Although Mr King favours mixed forces at divisional level, the official said that that would not rule out some Nato members contributing smaller units.

"You could also have a wholly European division and then perhaps one that consists of American and German troops, a sort of mix and match," he said.

The multinational force concept is not being discussed at the two-plus-four talks on German reunification. It is not felt to be an appropriate subject for that forum.

During Mr King's three-day visit to France, he will be attempting to continue the process of forging closer military links with the French which was begun by Mr Michael Heseltine when he was Secretary of State for Defence and continued by Mr George Younger.

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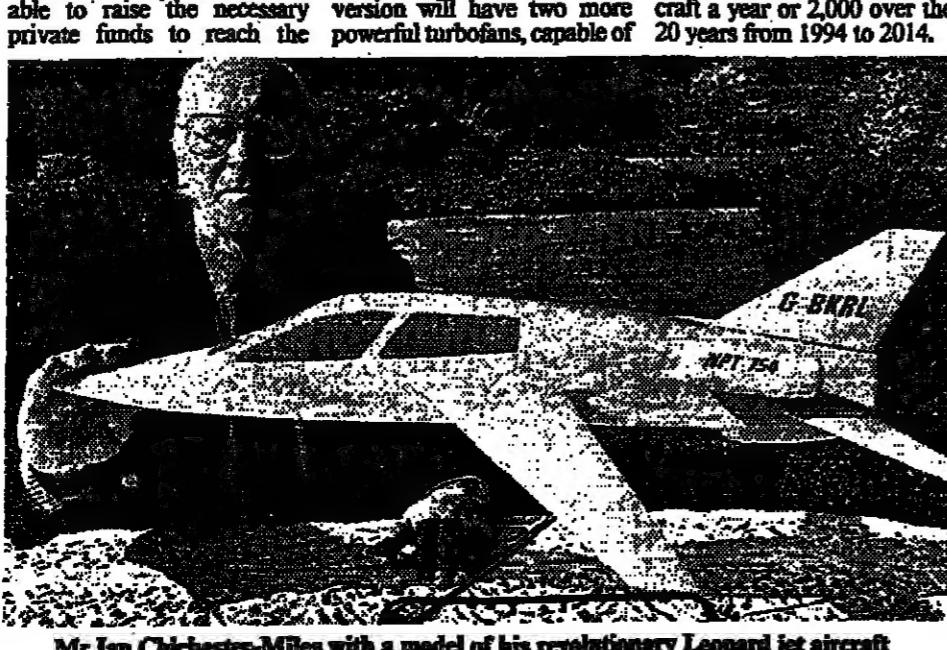
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Mr Ian Chichester-Miles with a model of his revolutionary Leopard jet aircraft

Jurists condemn curbs on freedom of media

By Richard Evans, Media Editor

FREEDOM of expression in Britain is increasingly restricted, with a trend towards limiting what may be said on television and printed in the press, according to a report published today by Justice, the British section of the International Commission of Jurists.

The report, by a committee chaired by Lord Deedes, the former Conservative Cabinet minister, highlights a "dramatic shift" in emphasis in recent months and suggests that the fundamental importance of freedom of expression is becoming secondary to specific interests, such as personal privacy and the law on blasphemy, where there is a clamour for restrictions.

"What has troubled us has been the impression that the Government and judiciary have grown progressively more careless about the principles which should govern all limitations on free expression. Instances of this abound," Lord Deedes, a former editor of *The Daily Telegraph*, says in an introduction.

He adds: "It may be argued that certain threats arise from excesses by some newspapers. It is probably true that the public today, if asked, would show itself more eager to protect the privacy of the

citizen than to defend the liberties of newspapers or broadcasting.

"That, if anything, underlines the prevailing danger to freedom of expression. It is when the antics of a minority provoke calls for new curbs on free expression, and when public indifference on the part of the majority are most at risk.

"When it comes to broadcasting, the coming perverseness of programmes by satellite is not in itself a legitimate reason for increasing censorship."

"We see a need to shift theonus of proof back to where it belongs. Freedom of expression is our bedrock. It lies with those, who desire for one reason or another to impose fresh limitations on it, to adduce solid principles for so doing."

Justice's decision in 1988 to set up a committee to examine freedom of expression and the law was prompted by several legal restrictions imposed on the right to receive and impart information, including Channel 4 being restricted in its coverage of court cases, BBC television tapes being seized in the *Zircon* affair and the *Spycatcher* case.

"Freedom of expression then seemed to be increasingly restricted, with a trend towards limiting what may be said and shown, particularly through the press and broadcasting".

Proposals to restructure British broadcasting would allow more to participate in it

"but what they communicate is still to be restricted by bodies such as the Broadcasting Standards Council".

The Justice committee examined laws which enabled public authorities, including the courts, to regulate or restrain publication of information, or required journalists to reveal sources of their information.

It recommends enacting the Law Commission's draft Bill on breach of confidence, which would increase the protection for personal privacy by imposing an obligation of confidentiality on information obtained by surreptitious surveillance.

Judges should have the power to direct juries as to the amount of damages in libel cases, while legal aid should be available in defamation cases. The report also argues for the abolition of the crime of blasphemy.

In an interim report published in December 1988, the committee proposed a reform to the Official Secrets Act 1989, allowing a defence that an unauthorized disclosure of protected information was in the public interest.

Freedom of Expression and the Law (Justice, 95 Chancery Lane, London WC2A 1DT)

Leading article, page 13



Miss Grace Dyson, company director, and the spectacular glass and mirror interior of John Dyson and Sons

Treasure trove found at shop

By John Shaw

A PAIR of silver candlesticks found at the back of a jeweller's display cabinet as the shop was being cleared prior to auction are expected to make £80,000-£120,000 next month.

They have been identified as the work of Nicholas Sprimont (1716-1771), a leading exponent of the English Rococo style.

The find will excite silver enthusiasts because his output was so small; only about 20 other pieces of silver by him are known.

Another pair of candlesticks turned up unexpectedly last year and made £210,000 at Phillips.

The latest examples, decorated with trailing flowers, seashells and flower heads, weigh 60oz and are hallmarked London 1761. They were discovered by Eileen Goodway, a silver specialist at Sotheby's, while cataloguing the contents of John Dyson and Sons in Leeds.

They had been bought as stock earlier this century and remained in the back of the shop ever since.

Dyson's, an old-established family business with a prominent city and county clientele, closed in February. Its remaining contents are expected to make over £500,000 in a three-day sale at Sotheby's in Chester from May 22-24.

Mr John Dyson founded his business in the middle of the last century, but the driving force was his wife who encouraged him to sell their first small shop and buy larger premises in Briggate, in the city centre.

She enjoyed taking holidays in Monte Carlo and was often

SILVER ROOM

lucky at the gaming tables. Her winnings paid for the shop's splendid chandelier and many of its clocks purchased from the Paris exhibition of 1870.

The spectacular glass and mirrored interior has survived intact from 1900 and is now listed as of architectural importance. The shop was a city landmark and its facade had a clock linked by land line to the Greenwich Observatory.

At noon each day a bell above the clock face would drop, giving local people the opportunity to set their watches accurately. Meeting under the clock was popular and young couples often chose an engagement ring from the shop's display.

When they chose a wedding ring, the shop presented them with a set of six spoons, each engraved with a lucky horseshoe.

Successive generations of the family were keen collectors but were reluctant to get rid of anything. Stock purchased in the 1880s was found when Sotheby's specialists spent a week cataloguing the contents.

It included enamel hatspins, now estimated at £25-£40, 10 rows of freshwater pearls as purchased from suppliers and a set of six coffee spoons decorated with crossed golf clubs beneath a golf ball (£5-£70).

Sotheby's found the English furniture market unpredictable in New York at the weekend. The auction made \$1.9 million (£1.2 million) but 78 of the 270 lots remained unsold.

Maps will go back to Poland

By Michael Evans
Defence Correspondent

BRITAIN is returning 100kg of Polish military intelligence maps and survey material taken from the Germans by British soldiers during the Second World War, in a gesture of friendship to the new democratic Poland.

The maps and folders of source information have been stored since the war in archives at the Military Survey library at Topham, Suffolk.

Now, they have been shipped off to Poland and today Major General Patrick Fagan, Director-General of Military Survey, will be meeting his counterparts in Warsaw for the first time to hand them over.

In Eastern Europe, maps have always been regarded as classified material because of the intelligence they provide of a country's terrain to a potential enemy.

Police hunt for camper

POLICE denied yesterday suspecting that the killer of a couple in Wales might have been disturbed while seeking a hideaway for an IRA arms cache. Speculation grew after it was announced that a camper seen near Little Haven, Dyfed, where Mr Peter Dixon and his wife Gwenda were killed last June, might have had an Irish accent. In November, an arms dump was found near St David's, Dyfed.

Sea rescue

Four fishermen were rescued from a lifeboat 47 miles off the Cornish coast yesterday after spending 36 hours adrift when their vessel, *First Light* of Helford, sank in minutes when it was swamped by huge seas on Friday.

Rushdie ruling

Mr Salman Rushdie will find out today whether moves to have him prosecuted under blasphemy laws over *The Satanic Verses* have succeeded when the High Court rules on an action brought by the British Muslim Action Front.

Bond winners

Winners in the National Savings Premium Bonds weekly prize draw are £100,000 bond number 348L 045570, the winner lives in Manchester; £50,000, bond number 317F 049939, the winner lives in West Sussex; £25,000, bond number 9KL 538178, the winner lives in Dyfed.

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General Tagan, Polish ambassador, visits John Dyson and Sons shop.



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Bar Council rejects surrogate mothers as legal parents

By Frances Gibb, Legal Correspondent

SURROGATE mothers should not be made the legal parents of children they carry, a Bar Council working party says today.

It says that the interests of children born to surrogate mothers could be put at risk by provisions in the Human Fertilization and Embryology Bill.

Under the Bill, surrogate or "carrying" mothers would be the parent for all legal purposes and the husband the other parent if he does not object. These provisions are "ill-considered", the working party says.

The working party, set up by the Bar Council's public affairs committee, says that the guiding principle should be that the interests of the child are paramount. On that principle, the Bill should provide that where all parties are in agreement, the genetic parents should be the legal parents.

In the event of a dispute, the court should decide. That is effectively the present legal position.

The working party says that as surrogacy increases, in a

number of cases the "genetic" parents will form a close relationship with the "carrying" mother and her family.

The child might never see the "carrying" mother again.

In such circumstances, the statutory legal parentage would be a mockery and confusing for any child required to cope with the situation.

The working party concludes that the use of legislation in the area of surrogacy is questionable. "Either surrogacy is so wrong that society should be defended from it by improving the sanction of the criminal law, or it is a matter of moral judgement, peculiarly within the province of personal decision."

It is difficult to "escape the feeling" that the provisions of the Bill on legal parentage reflect a "gut reaction" to a still new and startling aspect of reproduction.

© The Bar's cab-rank rule must be applied to solicitor-advocates in the higher courts or legally aided clients will suffer. Mr Anthony Scrivener, QC, vice-chairman of the Bar,

said at the weekend. If there was no cab-rank rule, by which barristers are in theory obliged to accept the next case that comes to them, then the issue would be left to market forces, he said.

The suggestion is that instead of having the same choice as the paying client, in the future those who require legal aid or whose cause is unpopular the Law Society will endeavour to find someone willing to take the case."

That looked like the beginning of a "public defender system" as in the United States, he said. In such a system a young lawyer cut his teeth on murders and other serious crime. "He does this until he can afford to shake it off and join the older and the more experienced, doing only the well-paid cases."

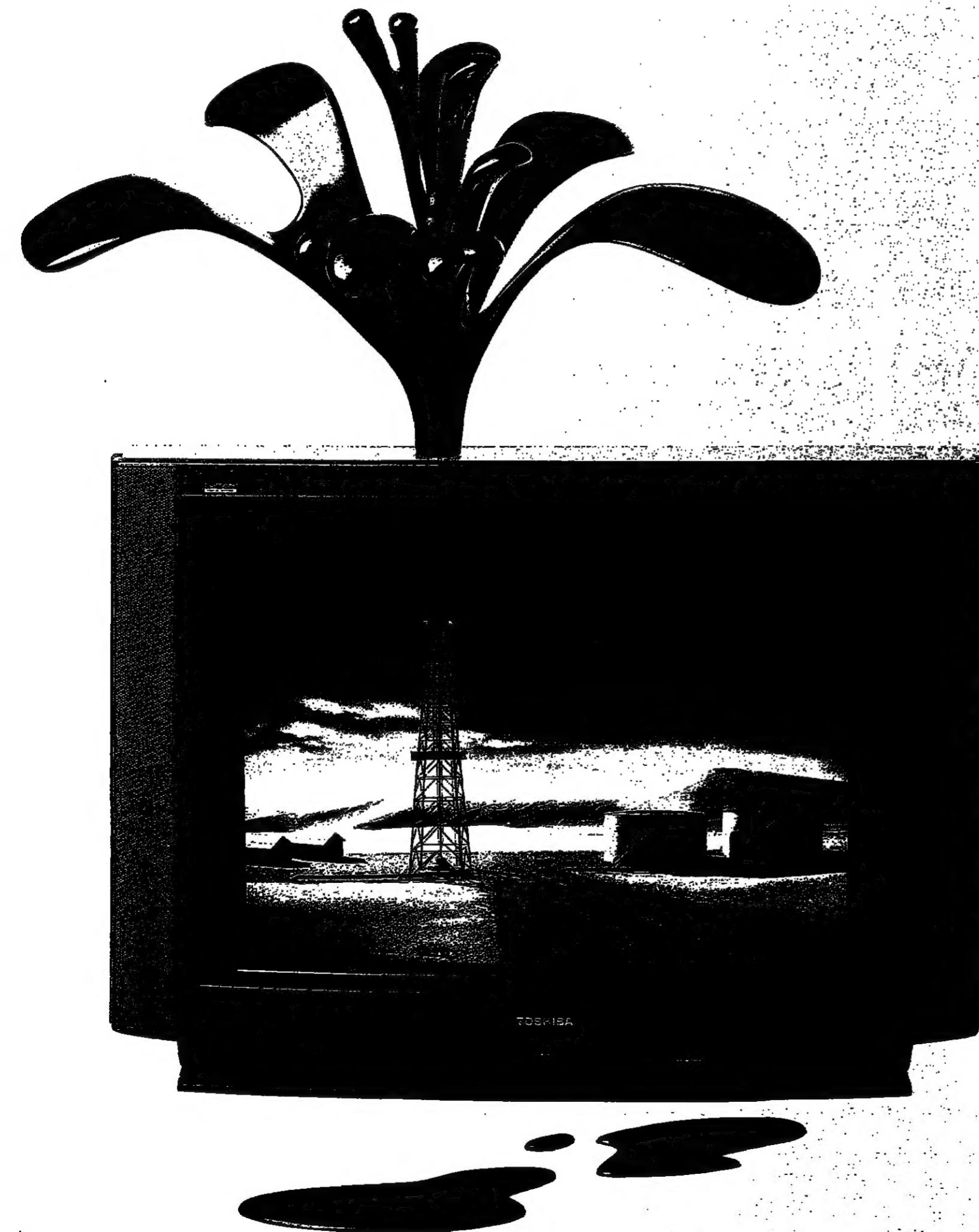
Mr Scrivener was addressing the annual conference of the British Legal Association at Lewes in Sussex, just one week before the Courts and Legal Services Bill comes before the House of Commons. The Government was defeated on the cab-rank rule in the Lords.

Final polish for a giant of steam age

ADRIAN BROOKS



Cleaners working on a 0-6-0 locomotive built in 1874 that is among over 40 exhibits going on show at Swindon Railway Centre from tomorrow.



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More interest in Hong Kong over London property

By Christopher Warman, Property Correspondent

HONG Kong residents have been showing increased interest in buying property in London in recent weeks as an investment against the uncertainties of the Chinese takeover.

British estate agents, some with offices in Hong Kong, have had hundreds of inquiries from local businessmen and British expatriates and a number have resulted in sales.

The growing interest comes as the Government is proposing to offer citizenship to 50,000 Hong Kong heads of household.

According to agents, however, it is too early to see evidence that likely recipients are looking for new homes.

Increase in house building

By Christopher Warman

SIGNS that the property slump may have reached its lowest point come from the latest figures for private house building, which show that in Great Britain starts for the first quarter of this year were 35,000, an increase of 5,400 on the last quarter of 1989.

The National House Building Council, which has published the figures, says that although this is nearly 15,000 fewer than in the first quarter of 1989, it is the first time in nearly two years that a quarterly figure has increased on the previous quarter.

Its first-time buyers' "ability to buy" index, based on a formula combining average deposit with average earnings, increased sharply in the first quarter of the year.

This is mainly because the average deposit required from first-time buyers has dropped to 17 per cent of the purchase price compared with 27 per cent at the end of 1989.

During the quarter, the NHBC says, the average price of new houses started in Wales fell by 11 per cent, by 10 per cent in Scotland and in the north of England by 4 per cent.

Mr Basil Bean, the chief executive of NHBC, said: "The underlying strength of the housing market is obviously beginning to show through again."

Delays 'keep out' legal immigrants

By Quentin Cowdry, Home Affairs Correspondent

FOREIGN nationals wanting to visit Britain can suffer "inordinate" delays getting visas even after winning appeals against initial immigration refusal, a report says today.

The United Kingdom Immigrants Advisory Service has protested to the Home Office about 14 cases where officials failed to issue visas to people whose appeals had been backed by adjudicators.

In one case, a would-be visitor from India received entry clearance more than a year after his appeal had been upheld. The service, highlighting the problem in its 1988-89 annual report, says it was also wholly unacceptable that it

took the man, who had wanted to visit Britain for three months, 18 months to have his appeal heard.

Mr David Winnick, Labour MP for Walsall North and chairman of the service, says in his introduction to the report that the appeals system in visitor cases has become "mockery".

Delays were so great that people wanting to visit Britain to attend weddings or other family occasions often found that the event was "long passed" by the time they won their appeals.

Mr Michael Barnes, the service's director, said it had a 40 per cent success rate in appeals.

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LEGALIZATION

Budget-minded reformers push case for cocaine over the counter

From Peter Stothard
US Editor, Washington

PRESIDENT Bush's drug "tsar," Mr William Bennett, wrote last week to America's favourite agony aunt, Ann Landers. He was not seeking advice; a man could drown in the advice Mr Bennett gets each day. He was giving it — to the increasingly influential US campaigners for illegal drugs to be legal.

Once it would have taken the most hard-headed libertarian to argue that heroin and cocaine be made available over the counter like alcohol, cigarettes or pain-killers. Today, as frustration mounts over a war on drugs which appears to have been launched without being fought, the legalization case is heard increasingly loudly.

To Mr Bennett, the proposed change would be a "disaster." "If we made drugs cheap, legal and readily available, drug use would surely escalate," he told Miss Landers' millions of readers. But to others who fight daily against the

country's top domestic problem, the matter is not so clear.

Judge Robert Sweet, a New York federal judge, is just one of those arguing that controlled dispensing of drugs by the Government would end criminal profiteering and save money on enforcement for use in drug treatment.

The legalization case has a long history in the fight against drugs. It is rarely posted today from the principle that a government has no obligation to save people from the failure of their own character. It is more or less accepted that drug abusers' dangers to others, whether fellow road-users or unborn babies, is sufficient to stake a public interest in reducing drug use. The crux of the more practical arguments is that the public cost of criminalizing drugs is greater than that of making them legal. The allegedly lower costs of law-enforcement and crime-reduction are thus set against the higher health and education bills.

Mr Patrick Murphy, a former New

York City police commissioner, accepts that drug legalization would help "diminish official corruption and reduce drug-related crime". Reducing the profits of the rich and ruthless drug gangs could return countless inner-city areas to peace, and maybe even prosperity.

On the other hand, Mr Murphy accepts that the new legal regime would also have to be policed; taxes would have to be collected; prices monitored; and black markets prevented. There would be problems in deciding which drugs could be legalized and avoiding illegal traffic in those too dangerous for any government to accept.

Treatment and education pro-

grammes would need to be expanded to deal with potential users who now stand outside the law of drugs. Reformers would also have to persuade sceptics that existing treatment facilities really work. Even if that were possible, the new system would not be cheap.

Would it, however, be fairer? Legalizers argue that one of the greatest inequities under the current law is that a few inner-city communities pay a disproportionate price for society's aim of keeping the number of those exposed to drugs as low as possible.

If drugs were legalized, many poor areas would be more peaceful and less crime-ridden. Other areas might have to pay a higher price of keeping young people off drugs. But that, it is argued,

would be better for society.

Varying degrees of support for legalization have come from the former Secretary of State, Mr George Shultz, right-wing columnists led by William Buckley, and intellectuals including Carl Sagan and Milton Friedman. So far, people who argue for such radical change tend not to be those who have to face voters every few years. It would be a political suicide note.

In addition to the concerns of the rural and middle classes a reformer would need to face the fact that opposition to legalization comes strongly from the very inner-city dwellers whose crime rates he wants to reduce.

An important part of all cases for legalization is the idea that only some human beings are predisposed to become addicts, and that, therefore, widening access to drugs would not produce Mr Bennett's nightmare of a "citrusy in a perpetually drug-induced haze". As the influential neuroscientist, Mr Mich-

ael Gazzaniga, puts it, only 6 per cent of the population abuse alcohol while 70 per cent drink it.

That is a highly contentious argument. It is made more difficult by the arrival on to the drugs market of "crack" cocaine and other addictive substances.

One reason that the legalization campaign has taken off is the sense that the present policy is clearly not working and that something else must be tried. The Administration is being punished for the bloated expectations raised by its drug war rhetoric of the past year.

Some conservative and liberal intellectuals may be drawn to legalization but the broader pressure is in the opposite direction. In Alaska, where it is legal for adults to possess up to 4oz of marijuana for private use, the drug use by schoolchildren is estimated to be three times the national average. A measure to reimpose criminal penalties stands a good chance of being passed in a November ballot.

SUMMIT AGENDA

Moves to liberalize the 'war' on drugs

By Dr Nicholas Dorn

THIS week's drugs summit will debate a policy of getting tougher with drug users, but some European speakers will argue for the emphasis to move away from the criminal justice system to services which help users reduce or discontinue the habit.

The American "Drug Tsar" Mr William Bennett is not attending, but his delegation's description of users as morally responsible for drug markets, and their associated violence and corruption, will provide a strong challenge to more liberal European views.

Inside the summit, middle ground will be explored — between the decriminalizers, and those enthusing over the prospects for more punitive approaches. On Tuesday, Dr Eddy Engelman, of The Netherlands Ministry of Welfare, Health and Cultural Affairs, will argue that excessive repression can increase the attractions of drug use while also increasing its social and health costs.

He will say that "instead of a war on drugs, we prefer to wage a war on underdevelopment, deprivation and lack of

socio-economic status." Unlike the Americans, the Dutch (and many other Europeans) see no contradiction in a policy that provides health-maintaining services to drug users who do not yet want to stop, as well as to those who do.

David Turner, director of the Standing Conference on Drug Abuse (SCODA), will address the summit on the need for education, specialist drug services integrated with broader welfare services, and adequate funding.

The American strategy foresees millions of dollars being spent on new prison places in an attempt to reduce the demand for drugs. Directly opposed to the "drug war" philosophy of the Bush administration is a loose federation of groups favouring legalization of the trade under state controls, or decriminalization of simple possession.

Two MEPs, Carol Tongue and the Italian Marco Tarash, today join civil libertarians in calling for "new approaches" to drugs. They deplore the "denial of fundamental democratic free-

doms" said to be intrinsic to trends in US drug policy. Their approach has been branded as "soapeasement" by Mr David Mellor, the Home Office minister.

Also beginning this morning is the First International Conference on the Reduction of Drug Related Harm in Liverpool. Professor Geoffrey Pearson will call for the criminal justice system to be fine-tuned to encourage drug users to take up treatment options.

"Reduction of harm can mean syringe exchange schemes to cut the spread of HIV," Professor Pearson says, "but we can equally aim at a reduction of legal and social harm. I distinguish between a heavy-handed scatter gun approach to law enforcement that fills the courts and prisons with people who should be being helped, and a more realistic approach in which the police focus on heavy users and on user-dealers in order to push them into programmes offering alternative lifestyles."

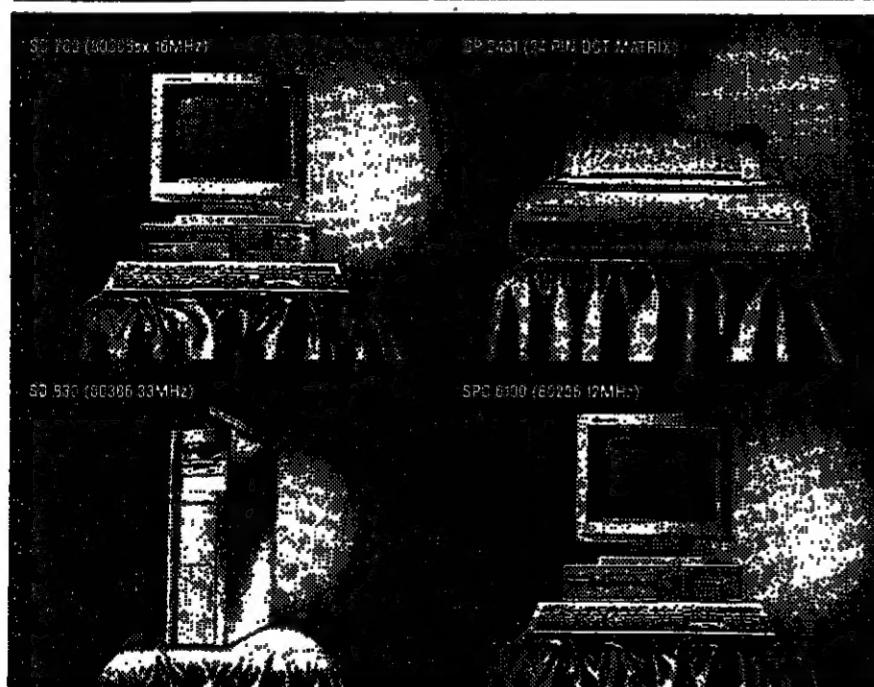
Dr Dorn is a criminologist researching drug trafficking at the Institute for the Study of Drug Dependence.



Crack, the cocaine derivative, epidemic in the US and already widespread in Britain

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LAUNDERING

Britain's role in 'cleansing' cash

By Stewart Tealier, Crime Correspondent

ONLY two hours have been set aside to debate money-laundering at this week's drugs summit, although attacking profits is seen by many to be as important as the battle against smugglers and dealers.

American enforcement agencies illustrate the amount of cash generated by drugs with the fact that it took the Maus 60 years to build up enterprises generating \$50 billion a year. In 10 years the Colombian cocaine cartels have created an American market worth \$34 billion.

In Britain in 1986 Customs officers helped to break up a gang laundering American cocaine money through this country. Up to \$200 million was believed to have been "cleansed" over two years.

No crime has generated as much cash as drug trafficking. But the volume of cash is also the trafficker's Achilles heel. Small denominations from street sales must be turned into larger, portable money: major traffickers often no longer count cash but weight it, knowing that \$1 million in \$20 bills equals 11Glb.

Money-laundering techniques are limited only by the extent of the imagination," according to a paper produced

by the Drug Enforcement Agency in Washington.

The most simple way is to smuggle the cash out of the country and invest it in tax havens round the world which offer low taxation, few questions and strict bank privacy.

An FBI training manual lists 14 countries including the Channel Islands, Hong Kong, Panama, Switzerland and some Caribbean islands. The DEA would add Singapore and Andorra. Scotland Yard has run investigations on the Isle of Man, Monserrat, the British Virgin Islands, and even in the City of London.

Launderers may set themselves up as currency exchange houses, taking the traffickers' money and moving it for a share, ranging from 3 per cent to 10 per cent. Banks will accept large amounts from the exchange house without suspicion and move money abroad for them.

In Britain the Drug Trafficking Offences Act allows the seizure of assets, and puts the onus on financial houses to report suspicious transactions. The act needs improvement. The key could be among the 40 recommendations of a G7 task force, which may be unveiled this week.

GLOBAL EFFECTS

Distorted logic of the narcotics economy

By Our Crime Correspondent

IN Medellin, second city of Colombia, they used to call the Saturday evening parade "La Marcha de Los Mercedes". A caravan of highly polished Mercedes cars would sweep into town from the homes of the cocaine chiefs for an evening of night clubbing.

In a country where the average per capita annual income is measured in hundreds of dollars the lesson for the inhabitants of city's impoverished ghettos and the hill farmers was clear. Why bother with legitimate crops paying a mere \$3.50 per day when coca crops pay \$25?

Farmers in Peru and Bo-

livia, the main areas of coca production, have learned the same economic logic and their cousins in the of South-west Asia and the jungles of Southeast Asia grow the opium poppy for the same reason.

Their efforts contribute to a global industry now worth \$50 billion a year, according to American calculations, although no one can claim to know the true figures. American drug sales are estimated to produce tax-free profits of more than \$95 billion.

Much of the cash finds its way through the financial centres of the world to re-emerge invested in legitimate banks and industries. Critics

say that unless banks become more open and co-operative they remain part of the problem when they could be part of the solution.

Evidence from the National Drug Intelligence Unit to a Commons select committee suggested that in Britain "there must be a vast amount of money circulating within the legitimate banking system that is drug-related. Not unnaturally this may have a destabilizing effect on the smaller financial institutions".

In Italy the authorities warn that the Mafia will make use of the breakdown of trade frontiers in 1992 to start investing further and further across Europe.

Such an industry means the cost of policing drugs runs to billions. There are over a dozen agencies and forces in the United States fighting trafficking nationally and heavy financial support is being given to the producing countries. The armed services have been brought in to the battle as well.

In Britain more than 1,000 police are committed to fighting drug problems, plus hundreds of Customs investigators. International groups involved include Interpol, the G-7 economic group, the European Economic Community and the United Nations.

It is the UN which funnels millions of pounds provided by Britain and other countries to persuade people like those tempted by the La Marcha de Los Mercedes that there are better crops to grow than narcotics. So far success is slow.

Colombia would like to be known for its exports of flowers, tropical fruits and shrimps. The world is more likely to remember its role as the breeding ground of cocaine traffickers.

An American survey in 1987 estimated that cocaine exports were worth three times the value of all other Bolivian exports and Peru earned twice as much from the drug as from copper.

Political instability is created by the vicious power of the cartels to protect themselves. In Colombia they are credited with the murder of 1,300 policemen, 157 judges, 108 politicians, a minister of justice, and an attorney-general.

Driving bans on those convicted of drug offences are among the moves designed to increase the risk to middle-class drug-users, who are thought to give the habit a spurious respectability. The courts may also be empowered to revoke the licences of lawyers, nurses, teachers and other professionals who use drugs.

Ominously, street cocaine prices have fallen by two-thirds since 1987, when crack dealers first started infiltrating

the poorer suburbs. A gram (there are 28 grams to an ounce) now sells for \$40 (\$24), little more than the New York price, providing the clearest sign that the city's efforts to beat the demon are failing.

The battle is further undermining a city already suffering industrial decline. It is having to pour millions of dollars each year into bolstering an overburdened criminal justice system and treating narcotics misusers.

About 500 youths under 17 are likely to be prosecuted this year, most for either using or selling drugs. In 1987 only 56 youths were prosecuted.

The state's response has been tough. Wire-tapping has been authorized, the death penalty introduced for drug-related murders and *condones sanitaires* thrown around schools, which incur a minimum 10-year jail term for dealers who breach them.

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reporter
Aids
boy dies

Ferry disaster sets off outcry over convenience flags

From Christopher Mossey, Stockholm

SHOCK over the Scandinavian Star ferry disaster quickly turned to anger yesterday with reports of poor safety precautions and linguistic confusion among the ship's international crew, bringing new demands for passenger vessels flying flags of convenience to be banned in Nordic waters.

Mr Georg Andersson, Sweden's Minister of Transport and Communications, said: "The Swedish Government has already said no to flags of convenience."

However, he said, he must await the result of the joint Swedish, Norwegian and Danish commission of inquiry investigating the disaster before he would support moves to ban all such vessels from Swedish waters.

"It is clear there must have been lapses in safety on board," he said. "We shall investigate carefully and if measures to tighten control are needed, we shall certainly take them."

Mr Anders Lindstrom, chairman of the Swedish Seaman's Union, promised to step up his organization's long-standing campaign against vessels flying flags of convenience.

"Such a catastrophe shouldn't be allowed to happen," he said. "Flags of convenience are a means of getting round provision of proper safety measures. They are a

threat to both crews and passengers."

He said a catastrophe on the scale of that which engulfed the Scandinavian Star could never have happened on a Swedish vessel, which would have included trained fire-fighters among its personnel, with the crew subject to regular fire drill.

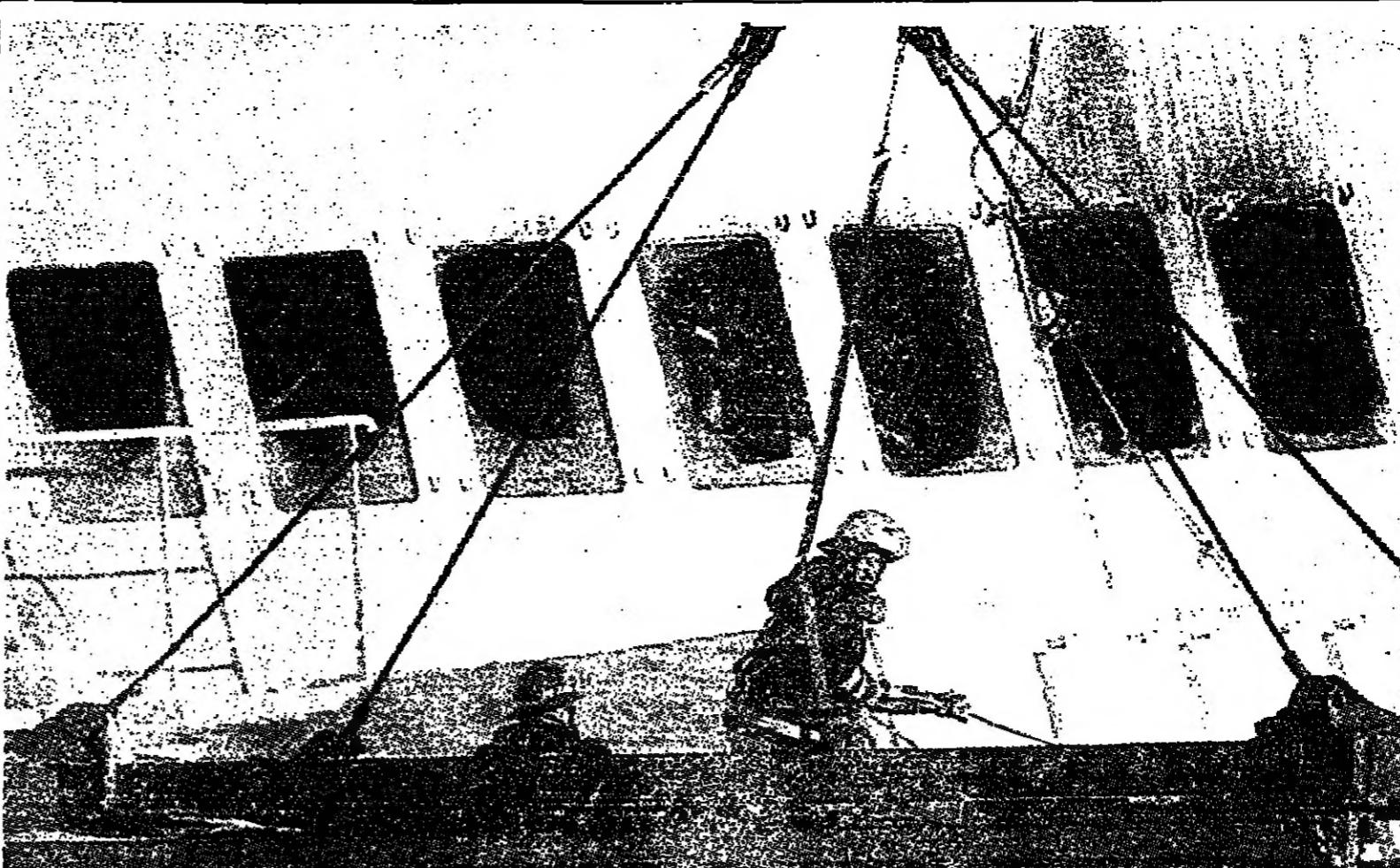
Several Swedish newspapers in leading articles yesterday called for a ban on ships flying flags of convenience on route routes in the Nordic area.

Göteborgs Posten, daily newspaper for Gothenburg, Sweden's principle port, referred to the reported breakdown in communication between members of the Scandinavian Star's crew and said: "Safety regulations should ensure that the crew can provide help in the most regular way."

This is not possible if it comprises poorly paid, badly educated workers from different countries. If the authorities cannot guarantee safety demands then once more it becomes necessary to question the practice of ships flying flags of convenience."

Sydsvenska Dagbladet, leading daily newspaper for southern Sweden, said the Seaman's Union had been proved right by the disaster in its persistent warnings against ships flying flags of convenience. However, Dagens

He described how he ran from cabin to cabin banging on doors and calling out to passengers to man the lifeboats. "For many of them it was too late," he said.



Firemen being lowered yesterday on a platform alongside the Scandinavian Star. They had to step over bodies in the blackened interior

Perilous battle to beat the fire ends in success

From David Septimus, Lysekil, Sweden

UNDER a sky of ice blue yesterday afternoon, a pair of dolphins played with carelessness around the listing hull wedged against the main dock of their small Swedish port. Their activities provided a momentary, incongruous distraction for the fireman taking air on the charred deck of the Scandinavian Star.

Then it was time for the men to return inside the choking cauldron. The "smoke-divers", as this particular breed of firemen is known in Sweden, still had work to do.

Clothed head to foot in protective clothing, with oxygen gear on their backs, the teams of 20 men have been operating from the moment the ill-fated ferry was towed here on Saturday evening.

Conditions inside the vessel were terrible: temperatures near the centre of the fire on the ship's Caribbean deck, situated just below the bridge, were estimated at more than 300C yesterday morning. It only began to drop in the afternoon as the firemen began to get the upper hand.

Trade union opposition within the fire brigades to fighting blazes at sea has been dropped and advanced training given to specialist teams.

It is generally when Britain hoists foreign flags that one board safety standards allegedly tend to drop.

Registered under "flags of convenience", some British roll-on/roll-off ferries have caused concern over safety because they do not have to comply with British safety standards.

Last year four such ferries, three owned by Sealink and one by Sally Lines, were found to have been re-registered in the Bahamas.

Shipping experts and the ships' officers' union NUMAST expressed concern at the move and predicted it could lead to poorer safety.

The introduction of cat-flap-style "hose ports" within fire-safety passenger doors which do not have to be watertight has been under consideration as a means of limiting the spread of fire and smoke.

Foreign vessels are governed by safety standards drawn up by the International Maritime Organization but these lag behind the new regulations introduced by the Department of Transport in the wake of the Zeebrugge disaster.

Mr Jeremy Beech, chief officer of Kent Fire Brigade, which regularly tackles blazes

in the Channel with the RAF air-sea rescue unit at Manston, said: "There will always be a risk of fire at sea and modern ships are better equipped to deal with it. But any ship fire is serious."

Despite modern techniques to protect engine rooms we have had several where we have had to drop men on board by helicopter because the fire containment system failed to contain a fire. Our marine fire fighting arrangements have never been tested at sea.

Britain is in the vanguard of marine fire techniques and, amongst constant advances, is soon to issue revolutionary immersion cum fire-fighting clothing which has been privately developed for firemen fighting a blaze at sea. It will be issued to Kent firemen, who are the acknowledged leaders in fire-fighting at sea.

Two years ago the International Maritime Organization, the London-based United Nations agency, began a review of ferry incidents. It found that despite progressive improvements engine rooms remain ships' most vulnerable point, accounting for nearly 38 per cent of fires worldwide aboard vessels of more than 500 tonnes.

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Some of the world's worst

ferry disasters over the last 10 years were:

January 1981: A passenger

and cargo ship sank in the river Jari, Brazil, after hitting a sandbank, killing 270.

June 1983: 317 died in a fire on the Nile.

May 1986: The ferry Samia capsized in Bangladesh killing 600.

November 1986: A ferry sank off Haiti and 200 drowned.

March 1987: The Herald of Free Enterprise capsized at Zeebrugge with a loss of 193.

June 1987: More than 160 rammed by a cargo ship, killing 200.

January 1989: More than 80 died in a Guatemalan ferry

sank in Amatique Bay.

September 1989: The Indonesian ferry Si Mawar Pate

capsized north of Bali and more than 100 were drowned.

October 1988: The Dons

Marilyn sank in a typhoon south of Manila and 300 drowned.

December 1988: A Bangladeshi ferry sank in the

Dhaeswari river after being

killed 113.

January 1990: At least 100

drowned after a collision between a ferry and a cargo boat near Dhaka, Bangladesh.

January 1990: The Chinese

ferry Dongguan sank after a

collision on the Yangtze, killing 113.

(Reuters)

All-embracing candidate: A woman farmer hugging Señor Vargas Llosa on the campaign trail

Stricken vessel is fully insured

INSURERS of the stricken Scandinavian Star ferry are bracing themselves for huge claims after the fire, described as one of the North Sea's worst peacetime disasters.

"There have been many accusations against the ship owners, but nobody can accuse them of having insufficient insurance," Mr Ivar Kleiven, legal director at Norway's Skuld Assuranceforening, one of the insurers, said. "If the demands were, for example, a billion Norwegian crowns (£91.5 million), they would be covered," he said.

The vessel's hull is insured in Denmark for £14.5 million. Other claims, including those for the victims, will be handled by Skuld in Norway under a policy with no limit on payouts. Compensation to victims is, however, usually limited by international conventions.

Accusations that the fire was started deliberately would only affect payouts to anyone found guilty of arson. Mr Kleiven said in a telephone interview.

Mr Fleming Nielsen, deputy-director of Fjende Søforsikringsselskab, the Danish firm which insures the hull, told the Copenhagen daily Politiken yesterday: "We still don't have a full idea of the extent of the damage but, at the worst, we will probably have to pay the maximum insurance (£14.5 million)."

Mr Kleiven said Da-No Line, the ship's operators, took out its insurance policy from April 1, the date the ferry started plying the route between Oslo and Frederikshavn.

Survivors tell of chaos as smoke engulfed ship

By Our Foreign Staff

SURVIVORS of the ferry blaze spoke of chaos on board as flames and smoke swirled through the ship early on Saturday.

Mrs Eli Kvale Nielsen, a Norwegian woman, was one of many survivors who said that they never heard a fire alarm. "It was all chaos and no organization. We had to find the life vests ourselves. It was clear that the crew was not trained for an emergency," she said.

"It took a very long time to get the lifeboats out. Then nobody knew how to get them down. We were hanging there, with smoke coming out strongly."

Other survivors, huddling in dry blankets after being brought ashore by rescue ships, claimed that emergency procedures on the Scandinavian Star were virtually nonexistent.

A Norwegian passenger, Mr Arne Solbrekke, said he saw a pile of burning clothes in the corridor outside his cabin. One Danish passenger said the frantic scramble to survive by several hundred people was like "something out of a horrible disaster movie".

One woman who escaped the blaze said: "I smelled smoke, so I got up and came out. There was no organized leadership on deck ... the lifeboats were full of people."

Another survivor said: "Many had been drinking and we didn't get any information over the loudspeakers before they ordered us to the lifeboats."

Most passengers were Norwegians and Danes, including children and pensioners, taking an early Easter break on the Bahamian-registered car ferry.

"We went on board a death trap," a Norwegian survivor, Mrs Greta Holen, said. "It was pure luck that I survived."

Passengers trying to reach the open decks lost their way in narrow, smoke-filled corridors and succumbed. Some died in their cabins.

A Danish passenger, Mr Leo Oeland, an Oslo resident travelling with his wife and two daughters, said: "We woke up in the middle of the night. I heard a noise outside. I went out of the cabin and saw thick, black smoke."

"Nothing happened when I pushed the fire alarm. I hadn't heard the alarm go off. At another place where there was supposed to be an alarm, nothing was there."

British experts keen to learn from blaze

By Michael Horswell

instruction which might be taken from it."

The marine accident investigation branch only last week concluded a £1 million two-year inquiry into ferry safety following the Herald of Free Enterprise disaster in 1987. The research programme backed internationally agreed stability recommendations for new ferries threatened with capsizing but the weekend disaster has prompted a further look into fire safety at sea.

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(Reuters)

Troops out in force as Peru goes to the polls

LIMA

TANKS rumbled down Lima's avenues and thousands of police were deployed to prevent guerrilla attacks during yesterday's presidential election pitting the son of Japanese immigrants against a world-renowned novelist.

About 300,000 police and troops were deployed throughout the country to respond quickly to attacks by Maoist Shining Path guerrillas, who have rejected the elections as a bourgeois farce.

Final opinion polls showed a last-minute surge of support for Señor Alberto Fujimori, the mild-mannered son of Japanese immigrants who has no past political experience.

But the polls suggested he would still finish second to Señor Mario Vargas Llosa, the world-famous novelist standing for the centre-right, who also has never held public office. In any event, there will probably have to be a run-off election, since neither candidate looks able to win the 50 per cent of the vote required to achieve outright victory.

President García, whose Government has been plagued

Tbilisi hopes for peaceful anniversary of massacre

From Nick Worrall, Tbilisi

THOUSANDS of scarlet carnations and tulips are strewn in the square in central Tbilisi where, a year ago today, 20 Georgians, 14 of them women aged between 16 and 70, were brutally killed by Soviet paratroopers wielding short spades and spraying poison gas from aerosol cans.

President Gorbachov sent a message to the Georgian people yesterday expressing "sincere sympathy to them and to the families of those killed as a result of the tragic events".

In stark contrast to last April's act of extreme repression, the Georgian Communist Party seems to have conceded the freedom of the country to the nationalist groups.

"Last April totally changed the situation in Georgia, and the people have been awakened by the massacre," Mr Zviad Gamsakhurdia, leader of the National Forum, the biggest of three rival nationalist groups, said.

"Now the people are all involved in the national movement. It is widespread; thousands more have joined us. The authorities have given up. They cannot fight against us now," he added.

Yesterday afternoon large photographs were being prepared of all 20 victims, 18 of whom were killed outright by the troops; the other two died of their wounds in hospital. More than 700 people were treated for injuries and some 3,000 have been treated for the after-effects of inhaling CN and CS gas, the use of which is supposedly illegal in the Soviet Union.

The troops, under Colonel-General Rodionov, were sent by Moscow after Georgia's Communist leadership requested help to deal with rising civil disobedience.

The facts of how people were beaten with trenching tools and sprayed with gas are not in doubt, although General Rodionov tried last year to deny before the Soviet Parliament that anyone had

been killed. It was also weeks before the Army would admit that gas had been used. The delay in identifying it meant that victims were denied speedy appropriate treatment.

After the massacre, the first secretary of Georgia's Communist Party was replaced by Mr Givi Gumberidze, the former local KGB chairman.

Interviewed in his office high above the city, Mr Gumberidze said: "It's a very sorrowful anniversary for us. It's a tragedy which will always remain in the memories of our people. A tragedy because so many completely innocent people died who loved their country."

The many Georgians now actively involved in the more than 100 political groups determined to win their country's liberation would probably scoff at such sentiments from the leader of the party which they blame for their oppression.

Since last April, however, under Mr Gumberidze's chairmanship, the Georgian parliament has declared its own laws pre-eminent over Moscow's, decided that the incorporation of Georgia into the Soviet Union in 1921 was illegal, and removed the Communist Party's monopoly of power. Multi-party elections will be held for the first time in October.

Would he guarantee that, under his leadership, the events of Bloody Sunday could not be repeated? "I am deeply convinced that this is the case. I will always do everything so that a similar occurrence can never happen again in Georgia."

Mr Gumberidze may be tested soon. On any given day, there are at least one or two marches, hunger strikes, demonstrations, rallies or street meetings in Tbilisi. In addition, the National Forum now plans a campaign of civil disobedience for the summer that Mr Gamsakhurdia believes will bring down the government.



Women in the village of Veresegyhaza, near the Hungarian capital, line up to cast their votes yesterday

Chernobyl families to be helped

From Michael Birney, Moscow

PRESIDENT Gorbachov, responding to a hunger strike by radiation victims and appeals from mothers of children living in areas contaminated during the Chernobyl nuclear disaster, ordered local authorities at the weekend to provide proper medical treatment and better leisure facilities.

He told the Soviet Trade Union Council to ensure that children from contaminated areas in Belorussia and the Ukraine spend their summer holidays at medical centres and rest homes.

His intervention came after a growing outcry over the refusal by local authorities either to move families suffering contamination or provide more medical help.

The Government has promised to step up treatment also for those who took part in the Chernobyl clean-up.

Bonn bought freedom for 33,000 political prisoners

From Ian Murray, Bonn

SINCE 1964 West Germany has bought the freedom of 33,000 East German political prisoners at an average price of DM95,847 (£34,900), according to one of the few men in close touch with this human trade.

In an interview which appears today in *Der Spiegel*, Herr Wolfgang Vogel, the East Berlin lawyer who negotiated dozens of East-West spy swaps, describes how he acted as the go-between for freeing thousands of dissidents locked up by the communist regime.

The trade was always officially denied by both governments, although there was never any question that it went on. Herr Vogel throws some light on how the figures never appeared in any of the government statistics.

He says that, for the most part, prisoners were exchanged not for money but for hard currency vouchers used

to obtain his help to free prisoners or to organize family reunions.

He calculates that down the years he has managed to arrange for 250,000 East Germans to go West as well as playing his part in the prisoner releases and being involved in 150 bilateral and multilateral spy swaps. He arranged many famous exchanges, including that of Mr Gary Powers, the U2 pilot, and Mr Nathan Sharansky, the Soviet Jewish prisoner of conscience.

According to him, the first political prisoners were exchanged in August 1964, and the last ones in August 1987, just before Herr Honecker visited Bonn.

Herr Vogel admits in the interview that he worked alongside the Stasi secret police, but says this was essential to do his work. "My goal was simply to help the prisoners," he said.

Elections in East Europe

Poor turnout in second round of Hungary poll

From Ernest Beck, Budapest

RAIN, cold and grey skies kept most Hungarians away from the polls yesterday for the second round of voting for a new multi-party parliament which will take the country towards a free market economy and European integration after 45 years of Communist rule.

As most polls closed voter turnout was estimated at about 33 per cent, down from 64 per cent in the first round two weeks ago. Polling stations were ordered to stay open an extra two hours.

The apathy was blamed on the inclement weather as well as public displeasure with party squabbles and a negative campaign conducted by the two first-round leaders — the centre-right Democratic Forum and its liberal rival, the Alliance of Free Democrats.

Voting was heaviest in Budapest and the western county of Gyor-Sopron, reaching almost 50 per cent.

Because of the complex voting system and the more than 30 parties contesting the first ballot, only one-third of the 386 seats were decided, making a run-off necessary.

No opinion polls were allowed to be published in the last week of the campaign and exit polls are banned. But indications are that the contest between the two parties will be close.

The Forum hopes to form a strong conservative group with the rural-based Smallholders party and the Christian Democrats, while the Free Democrats are linked with the radical League of Young Democrats.

There are fears that a close result without a clear majority for either group will leave the country without a viable government at a time of growing economic uncertainty and possible social unrest.

Dr Jozsef Antall, president of the Forum and the likely choice for prime minister, has ruled out the possibility of a grand coalition with the Free Democrats unless Hungary is faced with what he calls "a catastrophic situation".

Mr Janos Kis, acting president of the Free Democrats,

however, reiterated yesterday his party's willingness to join any broad-based coalition.

The Socialist party, the reform wing of the former Communist party which received 10 per cent of the vote in the first round, has been excluded from coalition speculation.

• LJUBLJANA: All Slovene conscripts will be withdrawn from the Yugoslav Army if the Democratic Opposition coalition (Demos) won Slovenia's first free elections since before the war. Mr Janez Prucknik, its leader, said yesterday (Richard Bassett writes).

More than 1 million Slovenes voted for a new president yesterday. The Democratic Opposition coalition intends to introduce a new Slovene currency, a new national anthem and its own flag.

Asked if Belgrade would not regard this as a provocation, Mr Prucknik replied: "Everything we are doing — holding these elections even — is regarded as a provocation by the Serbs."

He denied that there were parades with Lithuania withdrawing Slovene recruits from the Yugoslav Army. "Lithuania is part of a just superpower. Slovenia is in Central Europe. I do not take the possibility seriously that Belgrade might use force. The Yugoslav Army is not made up of idiots," he said.

Mr Prucknik is convinced that Slovenia must go it alone. "Federal status for Slovenia is out of the question now," he said. A new constitution will be drawn up within weeks if Demos wins. "Belgrade will have no legal authority here," he added.

• BUCHAREST: In brilliant spring sunshine up to seven thousand people yesterday acclaimed the announcement that Mr Ion Iliescu, Romania's interim President, will stand for this May's presidential elections (Tim Judah writes).

The announcement followed a weekend conference of Mr Iliescu's party, the National Salvation Front.

MERCEDES-BENZ 1ST AND 2ND



SUZUKA, JAPAN - SUNDAY 8 APRIL 1990:

REIGNING WORLD SPORTS CAR CHAMPIONS, MERCEDES-BENZ, SCORED A DOMINANT 1 - 2 IN THE OPENING ROUND OF THE 1990 CHAMPIONSHIP AT SUZUKA. AFTER STARTING THE RACE FROM THE PIT LANE DUE TO A MINOR TECHNICAL PROBLEM, THE CAR SHARED BY JEAN-LOUIS SCHLESSER AND MARIO BALDI CLIMBED THROUGH THE FIELD TO TAKE THE LEAD ON LAP 59 OUT OF 82. TEAM MATES JOCHEN MASS AND KARL WENDLINGER HAD LED FROM LAP 34 AND THEY FINISHED A STRONG SECOND IN THE DAMP BUT DRYING CONDITIONS.

(RESULT SUBJECT TO CONFIRMATION)

ENGINEERED LIKE NO OTHER CAR
IN THE WORLD



Stylish

Tourists evacuated from Nepal as crisis talks stall

By Christopher Thomas and Ian Sweet in Kathmandu and Andrew McEwan in London

TOURISTS trapped by a car after violent pro-democracy protests in Kathmandu were being evacuated from Nepal yesterday while talks between the Government and opposition appeared to have stalled.

Diplomats and tourists contacted by telephone in Kathmandu said the Government was arranging special flights yesterday to take foreign tourists out of the capital, where there were reports of at least 50 deaths in Friday's demonstration near the royal palace.

A Western diplomat said he saw about 250 foreigners at the airport trying to get on flights, but people were not panicking. "Everyone's just sort of relieved to be alive," he said over the telephone. "Everyone's... gratified that things have stabilized."

A group of 15 British schoolchildren and three teachers were among dozens of tourists stranded when the airport was closed on Friday.

The children, aged 16 and 17 from Bryanston School, Blandford, Dorset, had been due to leave at 10.30pm on Friday. They returned to their hotel while shooting continued in several parts of the city. However, they were not caught up in the demonstrations.

Whitehall sources and the school said it was not known whether they managed to leave yesterday, but they were in no danger.

British diplomats escorted tourists to the airport, and a number of them were on the first aircraft to leave. Two more special flights carrying tourists from many countries were expected to take off later.

The death toll in Friday's shooting, in which troops opened fire on demonstrators

as they approached the royal palace, remained confused with varying reports. The toll is put officially at 10, with 170 injured, although unofficial sources say that at least 25, and possibly more than 50, died.

Britain has advised against travelling to Nepal as did the Bush Administration, which said it deplored Friday's killings. It urged the Government to open talks with opposition leaders.

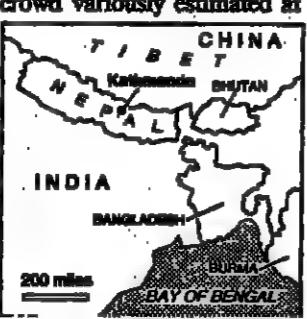
The Government did not issue a statement after yesterday's opening session but Mr Ganesh Man Singh, leader of the banned Nepali Congress party, said: "Nothing came of it."

Tourists are still trickling into the mountain kingdom, many of them ignorant of the tumultuous events that have shaken the Government and almost certainly started a move towards changing the partyless *panchayat* system under which the King is the supreme authority.

Badly dented buses with smashed windows — the scars of Friday's rioting — ferried the tourists into city hotels. Soldiers escorted the vehicles, which were stopped at checkpoints.

The pro-democracy movement now seems unstoppable having previously emerged and died away several times in this illiterate, politically inactive country where bad communications have hampered attempts at mass action.

Violence continued in several towns yesterday and security forces responded with force. None of the events is being reported freely in newspapers, most of which have long supported the *panchayat* system. Most newspapers that oppose it have either suspended publication or bowed to censorship.



Biko spirit rallies blacks opposed to ANC dialogue

From Gavin Bell, Guguletu, western Cape

THE spirit of Steve Biko has returned to haunt the African National Congress in its bid for power in a post-apartheid society.

While ANC leaders discuss strategy for forthcoming negotiations with the South African Government, rival black nationalists are inciting opposition to the dialogue with the succinct slogan "One settler, one bullet".

Some 13 years after Biko's murder by security police, disciples of his black consciousness movement are flocking to the banner of African nationalism raised by the Pan Africanist Congress.

Judging by the relatively

small crowd which attended a PAC rally in Guguletu township in the western Cape yesterday, its popular appeal remains limited. Only about 1,000 gathered in a sports stadium to hear PAC leaders attacking the ANC for "selling out" to the white minority government, but what they lacked in numbers they made up for in enthusiasm and militancy.

Urging them to cry freedom, Mr Zeph Mothopeng, the PAC president, said history had shown that nationalism was the most effective method of fighting colonialism.

"We must free ourselves, we must get back our land and we are not going to tell anyone what we are going to do with it. We must have it back first before we decide how to handle the situation," he said.

Other speakers said they were prepared to negotiate with the Government, but only after it had abolished apartheid totally and conceded that "group rights" had no place in a non-racial democracy.

The crowd listened patiently to explanations of Africanist tenets, but reserved their cheers for blistering attacks on the ANC. The speeches were perhaps best summed up by a popular slogan: "Victory, not compromise".

Mr Mothopeng, a former teacher, aged 76, is emerging from years in the political wilderness as a potential rival to Mr Nelson Mandela, the ANC vice-president. He left Africa from the ANC and formed the PAC in 1959. The organization was banned, and its members persecuted to the point where it ceased to exist in any tangible form in South Africa.

The Pan Africanist Movement, created as a cover late last year, officially became the

internal wing of the organization after it was unbanned in February. It is now assiduously recruiting followers throughout the country, among them militant youths drawn from the ANC and the remnants of Biko's black consciousness movement. Officials claim a membership of half a million.

According to Mr Khehla Shabane, a researcher at the University of the Witwatersrand in Johannesburg, they may become a force to be reckoned with if they can unify their disparate external leadership and strengthen their structures in South Africa. "They are potentially very strong with a large latent support that can still be tapped. Their message is very appealing to the landless majority," he says.

Unlike the ANC, which has

attracted support from all race groups, the PAC ranks are almost exclusively black. However, several of its younger and most dynamic leaders are Coloured (mixed race), and it is gaining converts among Islamic fundamentalists in the western Cape.

So far no one is personally

attacking Mr Mandela, preferring to appeal to him to abandon "surrender" negotiations with the Government and return to the Pan-Africanist fold.

Evidently he has received

the message, in concert with the Azanian People's Organization (Azapo), another descendant of Biko's movement. Mr Mandela is trying to arrange a consultative conference of all black nationalist leaders. The scheme was hatched at a meeting in Soweto at the weekend with Mr Jerry Morsala, the Azapo president, who promptly scheduled talks with the PAC.

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The Pan Africanist Movement, created as a cover late</



TIMES DIARY

SHERIDAN MORLEY

Despite the RSC's economic troubles at the Barbican, another theatre is to go up less than a mile away. It will be built, provided planning permission is granted next month, as part of the £1 billion Spitalfields redevelopment scheme, near Liverpool Street station, and will include a permanent stage for Manchester's Royal Exchange, arguably the country's leading regional theatre. The plan, says artistic director Graham Murray, is to create a replica of the Exchange's bubble-auditorium within new walls, and all being well (which these things seldom are), it will open in late 1992. Levitt Bernstein, who built the original Manchester Exchange stage, will build Spitalfields to the same design, and shows will be able to transfer intact from one city to the other. With no hope of subsidy, Murray's company will be tenants of the development group, obliged to recoup their costs at the box-office.

"We have learnt from RSC experience at the Barbican," says Murray. "We will never originate new work at Spitalfields. It will only ever be a transfer house. Manchester is very conscious of having lost *The Guardian* to London, and we certainly don't intend that it should lose us as well. On the other hand, we played some successful seasons at the old Roundhouse, and our actors and directors deserve to have their work seen in the capital."

Social historians and mere gossips will find the new *Dictionary of National Biography* a volume of rich and rare fascination. First, it insists on full and real names, for writers and subjects alike: were you aware that Bernard Levin's first name is Henry, or that Carly Bravins was really Doris Caroline Abrahams? Secondly, writers seem to have very different solutions to



Doris Bravins from on high

the problem of how frank they should be about the recently deceased. We are told, for instance, that only Anton Dolin was "unmarried"; Anthony Blunt, however, "relished the atmosphere of secrecy and intrigue surrounding his own homosexuality". We are informed of Enid Bagnold's affair with Frank Harris, but not of Sir Michael Redgrave's bisexuality.

Then again, Kingsley Amis tells us that Sir John Betjeman was "partial to a sufficiency of wine"; Keith Baxter writes of Richard Burton's drinking as "addictive"; while Diana Dors's entry recalls her denunciation by an Archbishop of Canterbury, no less, as "a wayward hussy". Eric Ambler is immensely discreet about James Mason's extra-marital arrangements; of Beverley Nichols, however, we learn that his "unconventional and indiscreet sex life caused consternation in the War Office."

• I am still worrying about the arts lady from Channel 4 who rang me to ask if I knew where she could find a soundtrack excerpt from Marcel Marcus's last *Louise* session in order to trail his next one.

New York, in the agonies of a post-Trump, anti-affluence mood, is the setting of an intriguing publishing row which could well travel across the Atlantic. Several members of the writers' organization PEN have objected that its annual fund-raising banquets are turning it into "a toy of the wealthy". E.L. Doctorow has resigned on the grounds that PEN should not "cosy up" to the super-rich, nor get involved in any kind of sponsorship, no matter how good the cause.

In the 20 years since Mel Brooks devised an unforgettable musical called *Springtime for Hitler*, the choice of subjects for big-band shows has grown still more improbable: how soon after King (Martin Luther, at the Piccadilly later this month)



Brooke, in a Brooks vein

shall we get a Kennedy musical with the full Dallas sniper finale? Soon enough, if Sondheim's *Assassins* is anything to go by. We can also look forward this summer to what is being billed as *Rupert Brooke — the Musical* by Mike Read. I only hope the first ball closes with Jeffrey Archer singing "And Is There Honey Still For Tea?" in a set resembling his present (and once Brooke's) Grantchester home.

INVITED in the 1920s to comment on a proposed code-breaking operation, Henry Stimson, later to become American Secretary of State, was forthright in his reaction. "Gentlemen", he said, "do not read each other's mail." Today it seems that gentlemen have changed their habits.

I used to believe that Mr John Biffen MP and his Tory constituency party chairman in Oswestry were vigorous pen-pals, and that postmen in Oswestry must be horribly indiscreet. But as new events in our national life brought chatty accounts of Mr Biffen's opinion about them, expressed in letters to the chairman which were reported without mention of the reply — indeed, whether there had been a reply — I came to see that the chairman was not the point. He was just a letterbox.

Then there is Tam Dalyell, who for years has been writing to seek

the events at Strangeways, Dartmoor, Cardiff and elsewhere during the last week are salutary reminders that prisons are inherently both volatile and repressive.

The dreadful violence at Strangeways has produced a parallel theatre in the adjacent streets and on television screens. Comments from a retired administrator, an American prison riots guru, union officials and politicians have not always been measured to lessen the chances of further trouble.

The calm stance of the local Prison Officers' Association leader, for example, contrasts with the volatile remark by one national official that the system as a whole is near to collapse. Every care should be taken not to inflame the situation further. Staff and inmates have a common interest in good order, and this is in large part achieved through a myriad of informal arrangements and understandings. The effective prison manager discourages unhealthy competitive patterns. He tries to promote a constructive regime based on mutual respect and one that engenders (in the words of one prison governor) "hope and optimism". To create and maintain this type of institutional ethos is an immensely complex

task that depends on the goodwill of management, staff and inmates alike.

A Swedish minister for justice once remarked that "a cage is still a cage even if it is gold-plated". It is certainly the case, both in Britain and elsewhere, that serious riots have occurred in prisons that were well staffed and had reasonable accommodation. There are good reasons for insisting that prisoners are decently housed, but one person to a cell with its own sanitation does not by itself reduce the likelihood of disturbance.

Prisons are desperately inward-looking and remain poorly connected to the urban areas they largely serve. In particular, the prison system has failed to promote a constructive regime based on mutual respect and one that engenders (in the words of one prison governor) "hope and optimism". To create and maintain this type of institutional ethos is an immensely complex

task that depends on the goodwill of management, staff and inmates alike.

In all the thought that has been given to reorganizing the British system, prisoners are rarely consulted — as they are elsewhere — about even the most rudimentary aspects of the regime. When their aspirations and anxieties are ignored, is it surprising that they resort to violence?

Expenditure on prisons in this country over recent years has, proportionately, been at a much higher level than spending in most other areas of the public sector. Staffing levels have great improved. But there has been little improvement — recent research in fact points to deterioration — in the quality of regimes. Despite record expenditure, prisoners spend much more time in their cells.

The prison department of the Home Office appears to have been consumed with efforts to expand the system (between 1980-95 by 55 per cent), by improving disastrous industrial relations through "fresh start" and with a reorganization with which it is proceeding against the better judgement of prison governors.

Over the longer term, the opportunity exists for Lord Justice Woolf, who will head the Strangeways inquiry, to connect the prison system with a new mood that is shaping penal policy. It is ironic that these disturbances have taken place against a substantial and sustained decline in prison numbers. Contrary to official predictions of further increases, the prison population has fallen by more than 2,000 since 1983.

There are encouraging signs of the beginning of a shift in attitudes towards imprisonment among prosecutors, judges and other practitioners, echoing the

contrasts with the miserable turn away from drawing up minimum standards that was taken after Lord Whitelaw's departure from the Home Office.

The leadership required by the prison department, governors and staff must be reflected at the highest political level. Eighty years ago a courageous and pioneering Home Secretary, Winston Churchill, charted the way forward to a very substantially reduced prison system. After announcing a series of steps to cut prison numbers immediately, he had to say:

"We must not allow optimism or hope or benevolence in these matters to carry us too far. We must not forget that when every material improvement has been effected in prisons, when the temperature has been rightly adjusted, when the proper food to maintain health and strength has been given, when the doctors, chaplains and prison visitors have come and gone, the convict stands deprived of everything that a free man calls life. We must not forget that all these improvements, which are sometimes salves to our consciences, do not change that."

The author is chairman of the Howard League for Penal Reform.

Andrew Rutherford offers suggestions to the Strangeways inquiry.

Treat prisoners like adults

note struck in the February White Paper, *Crime, Justice and Protecting the Public*, that prisons "can be an expensive way of making bad people worse". There is a new awareness of this country's penal policy has become out of step with that in much of Europe, and the Government's proposals to encourage a greater parsimony in the use of custody are receiving great support.

Practitioners, having grasped that they hold the key to change, are showing signs of being newly empowered to set the direction and pace of that change. This pattern of practice leading policy is evident in West Germany, where the prison population has fallen by 20 per cent since the early 1980s.

Political leadership was displayed a few years earlier with legislation by the government in Bonn establishing basic rights for all prisoners. This statutory framework goes far beyond the Prison Rules in Britain and

John Grigg urges new thinking on compulsory retirement

Expertise expelled

The announced departure

next year of the Archbishop of Canterbury and of Dr Graham Leonard, Bishop of London, has drawn attention to the fact that 70 is the retiring age for Church of England bishops. For Roman Catholic bishops in this country it is 75, while for the Pope there is no retiring age at all. (No pope has left the office, except by dying, since 1415).

In modern times, the Roman Catholic church has been well served by the absence of an age limit for the papacy. Many would agree that the two outstanding popes during the past century were Leo XIII and John XXIII. The first was elected at the age of 68 and reigned for 25 years. The second was 77 when elected and 81 when he died, after a short but fruitful reign.

These ecclesiastical instances point to a much larger question. Are strict, arbitrary retiring ages sensible in any circumstances?

In particular, is the British state justified in making its diplomats and civil servants retire at the relatively early age of 60?

During the period since the last war the expectation of life in Britain has risen by about 10 years. Men can now expect to live, on average, well into their seventies, and women into their late sixties. In relation to this longer life expectancy, 60 must be regarded as an early age for people to be forced to retire from their chosen sphere of work.

Two arguments are used to justify the practice. After 60, it is said, people are still physically quite robust, but their mental resilience and receptiveness to new ideas are necessarily diminished. By 60 their best work is sure to have been done, and if they are allowed to stay on beyond 60 they can only become increasingly obstructive and ossified, while — this is the other argument — blocking the promotion of younger people better qualified for the top jobs.

The first argument may conceivably be true as a general rule, but if so the exceptions to it are so numerous and so striking that to apply it indiscriminately must be absurd. If it were applied to politicians we would have to take the view that Churchill, who was 64 when he first became prime minister in 1940, was unfit to lead the country. There would also have to be retrospective disqualification of de Gaulle, who returned to power in 1958 at the age of 68, and of Adenauer, who was 73 when he became chancellor of the German Federal Republic in 1949.

Talent is clearly not subject to predictable degeneration with the passage of time (though of course everybody cracks up eventually). In music there have been great performers of advanced years, such as Rubinstein and Horowitz, and great composers, such as Verdi and Richard Strauss. Among painters Michelangelo and Titian are

obvious cases in point, and among authors Tolstoy, for one, kept going into old age.

At a more mundane level, in the world of business there is all the flexibility about retirement that is lacking in the public service. As a result, it is not uncommon to find people running large businesses long past the age when they would be supernumeraries as civil servants or diplomats. One example among many is Lord King, chairman of British Airways. Who's Who does not give his age, but the fact that he married for the first time in 1941 suggests that he is in his seventies.

Moreover, there is a familiar progression of former ambassadors and Whitchurch mandarins to important positions in the City and in industry. Whatever the state may think of their capabilities after the age of 60, they seem to be thoroughly marketable in the real marketplace. Sir Frank Cooper, for example, who was top civil servant in Northern Ireland and at the Ministry of Defence, is now, aged 67, chairman of the quango named High Integrity Systems Ltd, as well as a director of FKI Babcock. Sir Nicholas Henderson, since retiring finally from the Diplomatic Service, has been chairman of the Channel Tunnel Group and a director of Hambros.

Henderson became, incidentally, a rare case of recall to duty after the age of retirement, when he was appointed to the Washington embassy in 1979. By universal consent his mission there was a triumphant success.

In diplomacy, above all, experience is vital. The British system not only ends the careers of our diplomats too soon, but keeps them for too short a time in each posting, moving them on just when they are really getting to know a place and to have acquired the necessary range of contacts.

To the argument that the present retirement rule encourages the young by removing obstacles to promotion, the answer is that movement within the public service should be as flexible as the rule for leaving it. Instead of being kept waiting, exceptional people should be appointed ambassadors or permanent secretaries at about the age of 40, just as it should be possible for the right people to stay in the public service, giving the country the benefit of their knowledge and experience, at least until the age of 70.

In France public officials in home or foreign service have the option of retiring at 60, but are not obliged to go until they are 65. This is a more enlightened system than ours, though still rather too restrictive. The principle of an optional retiring age is excellent, since it provides an opportunity for weeding the service. The flowers should be encouraged to bloom for as long as possible.

Reply, pray, to this open letter



MATTHEW PARRIS

backfire. It is a weakness in the tactic.

I have eliminated it:

"Dear God, You will recall my previous inquiries, asking you to explain a number of your policies,

clarify your actions, and expand on the obscure manifesto hints which so far are all you have offered. I have to date received no reply. Can I remind you of the questions to which answers are urgently awaited?

"First, the underlying ideology. You have never explained original sin. This is causing considerable distress, yet the necessity has not been properly argued through. Your junior spokesman's attempts to justify these theoretical underpinnings have been unsatisfactory.

"Secondly, why all the secrecy? Why is your administration conducted cloak-and-dagger? Why do you move in a mysterious way? Is

"new, caring face" of religion. But has your thinking moved on at all on the questions of pork, shellfish, homosexuality, divorce and women priests? What effort has been made to cost your policies? To keep out evil, would you consider a pact with Allah? (I cannot believe that you are 'one' and the same). And when will you withdraw the party whip from the Reverend Ian Paisley?

"Finally, please clarify the behaviour of some of your senior spokesmen. Dr Runcie — most recently — is 'retiring' to spend more time with his family, while the Bishop of Durham seems to be discreetly distancing himself from your policies.

"To these, and many other questions, I respectfully suggest the people of this planet are entitled to an answer.

I hope I'm not struck down by the second post.

INVITED in the 1920s to comment on a proposed code-breaking operation, Henry Stimson, later to become American Secretary of State, was forthright in his reaction. "Gentlemen", he said, "do not read each other's mail."

Today it seems that gentlemen have changed their habits.

I used to believe that Mr John Biffen MP and his Tory constituency party chairman in Oswestry were vigorous pen-pals, and that postmen in Oswestry must be horribly indiscreet. But as new events in our national life brought chatty accounts of Mr Biffen's opinion about them, expressed in letters to the chairman which were reported without mention of the reply — indeed, whether there had been a reply — I came to see that the chairman was not the point. He was just a letterbox.

Then there is Tam Dalyell, who for years has been writing to seek



1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 01-782 5000

DIPLOMATIC OPPORTUNITY

In the twilight of the superpower duopoly, the Prime Minister and the Foreign Secretary each have a rendezvous this week with, respectively, the Presidents of the United States and the Soviet Union. The coherence of British foreign policy towards Eastern Europe will be scrutinized when Mr Hurd arrives in Moscow today. Mrs Thatcher will face an equally difficult task when she meets Mr Bush in Bermuda on Friday. Both she and Mr Hurd will carry with them the unaccustomed baggage of severe unpopularity back home and an image of a government still stuck in the dying embers of the Cold War.

Britain's relationship with the United States has recently been dogged by Mrs Thatcher's scepticism over the implications of German reunification. Mr Bush needs to maintain the closest rapport with West Germany's Chancellor Kohl, at least until after December's election. If forced to choose between Herr Kohl and Mrs Thatcher, he would lose little sleep over neglecting the British "special relationship".

Mrs Thatcher has, not surprisingly, stuck to her guns. She quite simply does not agree with the conclusion which the Germans and the French are drawing from the rush to German reunification: that European political union is the only way to "anchor" Germany in the West. For the moment, the reasoning behind this policy has convinced the White House. It has novelty, potency and offers a helpful message to Congressional lobbyists eager to withdraw American commitments from Europe. A powerful single Euro-power should keep those staggering Eastern states in some kind of order, without too much American help. Mr Bush has no particular need for "Iron Ladies".

Mrs Thatcher has long said that all this is dangerously simplistic. The unification of Germany has huge implications for the Balkanising Eastern states. The destabilization of the Soviet Union under Mr Gorbachov casts shadow as well as light over East/West diplomacy. And Western European unity has nothing whatever to do with the case. Mrs Thatcher has not just the wisdom of experience on her side in this. She remains a free-thinking spirit in foreign affairs. Mr Bush should listen.

As for Mr Hurd, he will inevitably expect to

raise Lithuanian independence, a delicate subject which his German or French counterparts would be likely to avoid. Germany has bigger fish to fry, and France wishes to avoid imperilling its relations with Germany. Mr Hurd will also doubtless convey Britain's version of that most sensitive diplomatic minutiae: trying to bolster Gorbachov's position in the Kremlin while not overtly approving of some of his less reputable policies towards dissenting parts of his empire. He should make clear that the Soviet army's present tactics make overt disapproval likely before long.

The symmetry of the agendas at both meetings shows how far America and the Soviet Union remain the crucial powers in Europe's future. The scaling down of their forces in Central Europe means that neither will have as big a stake in the years to come. This means that British diplomacy must pay more attention to governments on the mainland whose allegiance to one or other superpower was hitherto taken for granted. Greater independence for them means more complexity, more opportunity, possibly more danger.

From the abyss into which Europe periodically collapsed before the middle of this century, the monstrous phenomenon of superpower balance of nuclear terror emerged. Europe appeared to disqualify itself as the principal theatre of world politics. New possibilities and new possibilities now open. Balancing the powers of Europe will now be a combination of old-fashioned military and diplomatic geometry mixed with the requirements of nuclear deterrence.

The 1990s offer the prospect of a Eurocentric renaissance. With the Soviet empire shrinking and America possibly withdrawing into itself, the fragmentary economic superpower which passes for the Pacific rim will confront an equally fragmentary economic superpower built round greater Germany. The Soviet Union seems grudgingly to have accepted this. America is gracefully seeking to do the same.

Britain's diplomacy has the opportunity to reassess itself more vigorously than at any time since the last world war. How ironic if Mrs Thatcher were to forfeit the prestige she can still bring to this opportunity - all for the sake of local government finance.

FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION

In America, where freedom of expression is enshrined in the First Amendment, the right to free speech is vigorously protected and revered. In Britain, the right to free expression is nowhere to be found in statute law and the public tends to be apathetic in its defence. In his introduction to today's Justice report on Freedom of Expression and the Law, W. F. Deedes points out that, "It is when... public indifference on the subject prevails, that the liberties of the majority are most at risk."

That is why there was no public outcry when newspapers and television companies were required last week to hand over photographs and film of the Trafalgar Square riot to the police. Nor did the public take to the streets when a journalist, William Goodwin, was required by the House of Lords to reveal the source of information relayed to him confidentially. Yet both decisions endanger freedom of expression, and so affect the public as much as the news organizations themselves.

The news media exist to serve their readers, viewers and listeners - some but not all to do so at a profit. At the risk of sounding pompous, it must be said that their freedom to report public events faithfully is essential to the proper functioning of a democracy. Only when accurate information is freely available to voters can they make sensible and independent political judgements. For this to be sustained, the reporting of news events must be independent of the authorities.

If news organizations are forced to hand over material to the police, the events and people they are observing will treat them not as independent witnesses but as potential police agents. Their property, persons and work will be endangered. Any editor must ponder withholding material that might assist in the solving of a serious crime such as a murder. But

MEA MINIMA CULPA

Iron certainties in public life suddenly seem less fashionable than they were, and not only in Eastern Europe. In the past week the Governor of the Bank of England, Sir Geoffrey Howe and the Governor of Strangeways jail have all been putting their hand up and owning that something called a mistake may have been made in the otherwise calm certainty of their lives. (The passive voice is usually favoured for these sessions in the public confessional; the mistake somehow made itself, unaided by human hand.)

Are we experiencing some sort of intellectual greenhouse effect? Have they all been reading Confucius? It has always been true that by owning you have been in the wrong, you are asserting a new and greater wisdom than you previously possessed. That is not the line that normally commands itself to politicians and for a conviction politician it would be inherently absurd. The *locus classicus* was Mr John Foster Dulles, American Secretary of State in the 1950s. Asked whether he had ever been wrong he conceded that he had, once, many years before. "Of course", he added quickly, "it turned out that I had been right. But I was wrong to have thought that I was wrong".

Because politics is about accommodation, unspoken acknowledgement of error has always been a requirement of the job. It is more than 300 years since the Marquis of Halifax defined "this innocent word 'Trumper'". Mr Kinnock's attempts in recent years to make the Labour party appear electable do no more than offer a contemporary, respectable example of it. The expression "we have always made our position on this crystal clear" is widely accepted as meaning its precise opposite.

Improvisation plays a much larger part in politics than most practitioners care to admit. Ministers standing today amid the ruins of the poll tax - a mistake far too huge for any of them yet to admit it publicly - are glimpsing an old truth, which is that we often find out what is right only by finding out what is not. But then the man who never made a mistake never made a discovery. Politicians who make discoveries in this way usually discover they must trim at high speed. Putting a finger on the fast forward button calls for good nerves and a fair degree of impertinence. Admitting a mistake may then be a "U-turn", but that in turn is never an error, only an offering to that most wayward god, circumstance.

Proceedings at Westminster have been sensibly modified by the admission of the television cameras. The Prime Minister is still liable to riddle the opposition with a hail of automatic statistics at question time, but the decibel count is a good deal lower than it used to be. If the Treasury bench is now to follow Sir Geoffrey Howe's saintly example and concede the possibility of mistake, this could test the fabric of the Punch and Judy Show to destruction. Backbench MPs, in particular, would be faced with the bleak prospect of debating an issue which ministers and whips may, at any minute, drown in a blaze of self-righteous morality. Discipline might collapse.

Before summer is out we could hear *mea culpa* from the England cricket selectors. Mr David Pountney may announce that in his astonishing ENO production of *Macbeth*, red is probably a better colour for blood than green. And as for newspapers, well, Emerson always said that a foolish consistency was the hobgoblin of little minds.

Respecting facts of times gone by

From Dr H. Erskine-Hill, FBA

Sir, In a discussion of later 17th-century poetry, I recently asked two quite able first-year students of English literature: "What happened in 1688?" One had a good A level in history, from a State school; the other, from an independent school, had none. Neither had the faintest idea that anything exceptional happened in that year.

Whether or not this was a failure in historical or general knowledge, it was not unusual. It is hard to teach 17th-century literature to people of such developed public awareness. From this point of view the new report (details, April 4) on the teaching of history is certainly to be welcomed.

But it is a shame that the report does not reflect what Robert Skidelsky says ("Make them learn the landmarks", April 4): "Factual knowledge... is the core of history." Surely it is obvious that only when you know that something did (or did not) happen can you enter into the debates of viewpoint and evaluation.

In this respect the current liberal view of teaching history seems either notably self-defeating or, perhaps, sinister. The mind that is factually ignorant is peculiarly vulnerable to ideological takeover. Without factual knowledge, a fascist or a Marxist myth of the past will seem quite plausible.

Nobody advocates facts without understanding, but clearly the one must come before the other. And it may be thought that facts, memory and freedom run together.

Yours faithfully,
HOWARD ERSKINE-HILL,
Pembroke College, Cambridge.
April 4.

From Professor D. Cameron Watt

Sir, To the historian of society as a whole, much of the dominant orthodoxy represented by the letter from Professor Thompson (March 29) appears to believe that the history of the United Kingdom (a political concept *par excellence* in itself) can be studied and taught without reference to the changing political structure of British society, or to the interplay of personalities at the top which is an inescapable part of those structures. Political history at the national level, let alone at the international, is seen as old-hat, uninteresting if not actually irrelevant. For instance, the annual conference hosted by the University of London's Institute of Historical Research is entirely devoted this year to the history of cities: a fascinating subject in itself but only one element in the wide range of historical interests represented among British academics.

The truth is that the lack of any serious forum at which disagreements as to the nature of history could be reasonably debated among British historians has produced a situation in which these disagreements are pursued through bureaucratic mechanisms and in which they are presented as a clash either of personalities or of timeliness.

Yours sincerely,
D. CAMERON WATT,
London School of Economics and
Political Science,
Department of International
History,
Houghton Street, WC1.
April 3.

Hardback novels

From Mrs Valerie Grosvenor Myer

Sir, As a novelist and critic partly dependent on Public Lending Right income, I deplore the new policy of Cambridge's Libraries. In future, they will buy almost no hardback fiction. This means that novels which never get into paperback will not be available at the public library, or anywhere else after their shelf-life (about three months) is over.

The implications are serious: those of us who need professionally to keep abreast of current fiction will have to find £12 or £15 a time in order to find out whether the latest fashionable book is worth reading. Most readers either borrow or wait for the paperback. Readers stand to lose access to new fiction; authors stand to lose both library sales and PLR income.

Barbara Cartland and Catherine Cookson will continue to flourish; good serious fiction has received another death blow. Publishers are already wary of publishing any novel not likely to make a hefty profit. The new American publishing consortium (for example, Goldmine, under new management) are axeing fiction from their lists. When even library sales of hardbacks disappear, the plight of the novelist, apart from a blockbuster few, will be desperate. And where is the solution to come from?

Yours etc.,
VALERIE GROSVENOR MYER,
34 West End,
Haddenham,
Buckinghamshire.

From Mr David N. Harris

Sir, As one of the partners in the firm of solicitors which acted on the Myodil test case (report, March 13) I note with interest the points made by Dr J. L. G. Thomson (April 5).

His claim that the clamour against Glaxo Laboratories, the manufacturers of Myodil, is reaching "near hysterical" proportions is unjustified. This firm has received in excess of 1,000 enquiries and positive instructions to investigate claims on behalf of over 700 prospective plaintiffs.

My experience in this litigation has to date been that the prospec-

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Role of police in poll tax riot

From the Very Reverend Dr J. Fraser McLuskey

Sir, In your editorial of April 2 you counsel us to remain calm in the wake of the orgy of violence in central London on March 31. You would do us a greater service if you urged us to be deeply troubled by what we have for long and much too calmly allowed our police forces to pay.

This last outburst is not new nor need it have taken anyone by surprise. Demonstration after demonstration, whatever the particular purpose, have provided golden opportunities to attack the police. They will continue to do so until either prohibited or drastically curtailed.

If it should be argued that this would be inconsistent with our democratic traditions then let the price be paid until we have devised adequate protection for those who themselves safeguard these traditions. Large-scale demonstration is a luxury we have no right to afford so long as our police meet the cost in wounds and death.

Yours sincerely,
J. FRASER McLUSKEY,
14 Buckingham Terrace,
Edinburgh 4.
April 3.

From Professor P. R. Fellgett, FRS

Sir, It seems that the police, faced with demonstrations, make a fundamental cybernetic error similar to that often made by those who put up road direction signs. This is to forget that those on the ground do not have, and therefore cannot possibly act upon, the synoptic information available to someone sitting in a distant control-room. Indeed senior police officers inadvertently admit this when they try to deflect criticism from eye

witnesses by saying that these critics saw only the local situation and did not have the whole picture.

Moreover the police, understandably but I argue wrongly, seem to give priority to constraining and apprehending the law-breakers, whereas the first duty of the police in a free society should always be to the innocent.

To the bystander or innocent participant, police charging so as to drive one section of a crowd into another, driving people first one way and then back where they came from, or trampling people in horse-charges, does not appear as rioters in uniform but indeed are just that with respect to their effect on innocent people caught up in the disturbances. It is fundamental to law and order that the innocent citizen must be able to rely on the police being behaved neatly without doubt or question.

The priorities of the police should first be to determine what innocent people should and can do to distance themselves from the trouble, second to ensure that the innocent have this information so that they know what to do, and third to rescue anyone prevented by violence or accident from so doing.

There can be no pretence that these objectives are other than very difficult to attain, or that they will be reached except by painful trial based on critical and imaginative analysis, but at least it is a step forward to identify the right aims.

Yours faithfully,
PETER FELLETT,
Little Brighter,
St Kew Highway,
Bodmin, Cornwall.
April 3.

Violence in society

From Sir Frank Price

Sir, When will those who govern in our name wake up to the simple truth that the governed do not act in the mild-mannered way of the Jarrow marchers of the thirties? When will it "sink in" that they have been created by their actions, or lack of them, a totally different environment?

Do they not see that poorly educated young people who are fed on a diet of violence on our cinema and TV screens daily and left for years without proper employment, grow up into violent young men and women? Walk in any street in almost any town and you can feel the pent-up aggression.

Add to this legislation which potentially widens the gulf between the haves and have-nots and the sheer arrogance of those pushing it

Sincerely,

FRANK PRICE,
Reform Club,
Pall Mall, SW1.

April 3.

through the parliamentary process and we have a prescription for continuing and escalating anarchy.

The posturing of ministers is quite frightening. The accepted view in the country is that few if any of the members of the Cabinet have the courage to say "enough is enough".

The British people, the Church, the majority of members of Parliament (I feel sure) want our society to be much more caring. If they fail to grasp the nettle and be more concerned with the future well-being of our democracy, of which they are custodians, it will very soon disappear. This country deserves better from them.

Yours faithfully,

MICHAEL SAWARD,

Ealing Vicarage,
11 Church Place, W5.

From Lady McFarland

Sir, I was disturbed when I read your profile of Dr Robin Eames (March 27). I knew him when he was Bishop of Derry and Raphoe and he brought leadership and hope to a community which could easily have lost heart during that particularly bad time in Northern Ireland's troubles.

He is also a devout Christian and a kind and caring man, qualities which surely are necessary in bishop or archbishop and which were not even mentioned in your article.

Yours faithfully,
MARYETTE MC FARLAND,
Dunmore House,
Carrigans,
Co. Donegal,
Irish Republic.
March 30.

Electric cars

From Mr Nigel M. Chapman

Sir, It is hardly appropriate for Mr Weighell (March 28) to compare the fuel efficiency of an internal combustion engine once that fuel has been prepared with that of the generating or production efficiency needed to turn fossil fuel into electric power, before it is used by an electric vehicle.

Mr Weighell also overstates the transmission and operating losses of an electric vehicle; modern solid state controls are highly efficient when compared with resistance control.

His assertion that the materials used in the manufacture of electric vehicles are inherently more expensive than those of an internal combustion vehicle makes no allowance for the relative simplicity of the manufacturing process in the case of the former. Essentially an electric vehicle has only one moving part, the armature, as compared with the crank, valves and gearbox of an internal combustion engine.

Lastly, he makes no allowances for the other obvious advantages of electric vehicles that when in use, but at rest, power is not being used, that the motor can recharge its own cells when running regeneratively, for example downhill, and that electricity can be derived from a variety of sources, including hydro-electric schemes, the use of which is dependent upon one finite resource.

I contend that electric vehicles have far more "street-credibility" than the internal combustion engine; what is needed is a serious, sustained research-and-development programme into alternatives to the petrol and diesel engine.

Yours faithfully,

N. M. CHAPMAN.

4 The Twitten,
Little Common,
Bexhill, East Sussex.

March 28.

constructive answer could be given to the forest's major problems, and then a joint response with the Minister for the Environment?

Yours faithfully,

BELINDA MONTAGU
(President, New Forest Association),
New Farm House,
Longdown, Marchwood,
Southampton, Hampshire.

In a hole



COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE, April 7: By Command of The Queen, the Earl of Airlie (Lord Chamberlain) was present at Heathrow Airport, London, this morning upon the departure of The President of the Republic of India and Shri Venkata Ramamurti and bade farewell to Their Excellencies on behalf of Her Majesty.

The Princess Royal, Patron, Scottish Rugby Union, this evening attended a Celebration Dinner at the Carlton Highland Hotel, Edinburgh.

April 8: The Duke of Edinburgh, Patron, this afternoon visited Windsor Rugby Football Club. The Duke of Edinburgh later

Marriages

Mr R.W. Wadey and Lady Bridget Ann Stuart The marriage took place on Saturday at All Saints' Church, Pembridge, Herefordshire, of Mr Robert Wadey, only son of Mr Thomas Wadey and the late Mrs Wadey, of Mayne Gardens, Brighton to Lady Bridget Ann Stuart, daughter of Earl and Countess Castle Stewart, of Stonehouse Farm, East Pennard, Somerset. Canon G. Farren officiated.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by the Hon Celia Stuart, Miss Lisa Hodge and Miss Anna Louise Hodge. Mr George Rolfe was best man. A reception was held at the home of the bride and the honeymoon will be spent in Spain.

Mr S.R. Foster and Miss P.L. Back The marriage took place on Saturday at St Mary's, Sisland, Norfolk, of Mr Simon Ridgby Foster, elder son of the late Sir Ridgby Foster and of Lady Foster, of Symmells, Kent, to Miss Philippa Lucy Back, daughter of Mr and Mrs Philip Q. Back, of Sisland, Norfolk. The Rev Peter Green officiated.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Miss Belinda Back. Mr Richard Foster was best man.

A reception was held at the home of the bride and the honeymoon will be spent in France.

Mr N.W. Taylor and Miss H.P. Miles-Sharp The marriage took place on Saturday at Woodbridge Register Office, Suffolk, of Mr Niven Taylor, son of Mr and Mrs L. Taylor, of Poole, to Miss Hilarie Miles-Sharp, daughter of the late Mr Michael Miles-Sharp, and of Lady Packard, of Lower Ufford, Woodbridge.

A reception was held at Park Side, Lower Ufford, and the honeymoon will be spent abroad.

Mr S.W. Anderson and Miss C.F.M. Bowring The marriage took place quietly in Bath on Tuesday, March 20, 1990, of Stuart, eldest son of Mr and Mrs Ronald Anderson, of Milnthorpe, Cumbria, with Caroline, elder daughter of Major General and Mrs John Bowring, of Coln St Aldwyns, Gloucestershire.

The Rev C.R. Bruce and Miss A. Branneryd The marriage took place on Saturday at the Chapel of St Martin Undercroft, Palace of Westminster, of the Hon Charles Bruce, son of Lord and Lady Aberdare, and of Mrs Branneryd, of Falun, Sweden. The Rev Patrick Tuft officiated.

The bride, who was given in marriage by Mr Dan Stirling, was attended by Sarah Bruce, Antonia Bruce, Natasha Gee-Turner and Thomas MacThomas. The Hon Adam Bruce was best man.

A reception was held at Wellington Barracks and the honeymoon will be spent abroad.

Mr R.D. Means and the Hon Juliet Deedes The marriage took place on Saturday at the Christian Community Church, Aldington, Ashford, Kent, of Mr Robert Dale Kent, eldest son of Mr Robert Means of Blythe, California, and Mrs Clyda Holbrook, of Hemet, California, to the Hon Juliet Evelyn Mary Deedes, eldest daughter of Lord and Lady Deedes of New Hayters, Aldington. The Rev Cyril Coombs and the Rev John Dyer officiated.

The bride was given in marriage by her father, Mr Jon Oney was best man.

A reception was held at the home of the bride and the honeymoon will be spent in Italy and Scotland.

Mr E.J. Cunningham and Miss M.A. Foster On March 17, 1990, at Hale School Chapel, Perth, Western Australia, Edward James, younger son of Mr and Mrs Charles Cunningham, Westcott Barton, Oxon, to Melissa Anne, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Daryl Foster, Wembury Downs, Perth, W Australia.

Mr J.H. Morgan and Mrs E. Fins The marriage took place on Saturday, between Mr John Morgan and Mrs Barbara Fenton, at their Parish Church, St Peter's, Appleshaw, Hampshire.

Mr E.J. Cunningham and Miss M.A. Foster On March 17, 1990, at Hale School Chapel, Perth, Western Australia, Edward James, younger son of Mr and Mrs Charles Cunningham, Westcott Barton, Oxon, to Melissa Anne, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Daryl Foster, Wembury Downs, Perth, W Australia.

Mr J.H. Morgan and Mrs E. Fins The marriage took place on Saturday, between Mr John Morgan and Mrs Barbara Fenton, at their Parish Church, St Peter's, Appleshaw, Hampshire.

Mr R.J. Jones and Mrs H.C. Methuen The marriage took place on Saturday at St Michael's, Kintwinton, Derbyshire, of Mr Robert Lewellyn Jones, elder son of Mr and Mrs D.J. Jones, of Rotherham, Surrey, to Miss H. Christian (Kirsten) Guttenhoefer, younger daughter of the Hon R.A.H. and Mrs Methuen, of Kintwinton. The Ven C.G. Hooper, grandfather of the bride, officiated, assisted by Canon A. Bentz, who said the prayers.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was

wed at Land's End.

Mr R.J. Jones and Mrs H.C. Methuen The marriage took place on Saturday at St Michael's, Kintwinton, Derbyshire, of Mr Robert Lewellyn Jones, elder son of Mr and Mrs D.J. Jones, of Rotherham, Surrey, to Miss H. Christian (Kirsten) Guttenhoefer, younger daughter of the Hon R.A.H. and Mrs Methuen, of Kintwinton. The Ven C.G. Hooper, grandfather of the bride, officiated, assisted by Canon A. Bentz, who said the prayers.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was

Forthcoming marriages

Mr N.S.V. Down and Miss V.C.B. Foster The engagement is announced between Nigel, younger son of Sir Alastair and Lady Down, of Hawick, Roxburghshire, and Victoria, second daughter of Mr and Mrs Frank Foster, of Henfield, Sussex.

Captain J.C. Cartwright and Miss S.P. Phillips The engagement is announced between Captain Jerry Cartwright, Worcestershire and Sherwood Foresters, son of Mr and Mrs C. Cartwright, of Poole House, Worcester, and Sarah, daughter of Mr and Mrs C.J. Phillips, of Burton House, West Stafford.

Mr E.P. Heald and Miss S.M.L. Philbrick The engagement is announced between Richard, son of Professor and Mrs Peter Heald, of Bunting, Somerset, and of Tiron, Isle of Mull, and Sarah, daughter of Mr and Mrs Hugh Philbrick, of Great Bealings, Woodbridge, Suffolk.

THE VERY REV "BILL" WILLIAMS

PETER DOHERTY

The Very Rev Harold C.N. ("Bill") Williams, Provost of Coventry Cathedral from 1958 to 1981, died aged 75 on April 5. He was born on December 6, 1914.

The Princess Royal this evening attended Harfield Heart Transplant Trust Charity Gala Concert at the Theatre Royal, Windsor, and was received by Her Majesty's Lord Lieutenant for the Royal County of Berkshire (Mr J. R. Count).

Afterwards, Her Royal Highness attended a dinner at the Castle Hotel, Windsor.

When the medieval cathedral was destroyed by German bombs in 1940 the then provost was determined that what had been destroyed in hate should be rebuilt in a spirit of reconciliation. But soon after the laying of the foundation stone in 1956, and the building work had begun, he resigned to make room for a younger man to pilot the new cathedral towards its completion and to inaugurate its ministry.

For this great task Williams was chosen. Born in South Africa, where he began his education, he came to Durham University and later was ordained to a curacy in Winchester. He was called back to South Africa as Principal of St Matthew's College in 1941 where he stayed for eight years.

Returning to England, he became Rector of St Mary's Church, Southampton. This city centre church had been destroyed by enemy action only a few weeks after Coventry, and Williams's work there in rebuilding his church and re-establishing its ministry convinced Dr Cuthbert Bardsley, then Bishop of Coventry, that Williams would be exactly the right man for the new cathedral. Events were to prove that no better choice could have been made.

Bill Williams (as he was always known) arrived in Coventry in 1958 and with his new team began the four-year task of planning the future ministry and organisation of the remarkable new building



which the late Sir Basil Spence had designed.

There were innumerable questions to be answered. What kind of staff would be needed? What should be the pattern and style of worship? What kind of community should be evolved to support the cathedral and its worship and service? What kind of relationship should the cathedral establish with the diocese, the city and the wider community at home and abroad?

This huge and daunting task Williams undertook with considerable vision and with a courage which sprang from the spiritual resources of prayer and Bible study which he knew to be essential to the great work entrusted to him was to succeed.

When he came to Coventry, the congregation consisted of a few dozen people worshipping in an underground crypt chapel beneath the ruins.

Williams formed the Community of the Cross of Nails, uniting in prayer, discipline and commitment Christians living in areas of conflict and tension. Through his work Coventry became a name indicative of the spirit of reconciliation in many parts of the world.

It sometimes seemed that Williams's work was more appreciated abroad than at home. He preferred to work on a large canvas, was impatient with what he considered to be the trivialities of church life and he had little fondness for ecclesiastical symbols.

But through his outstanding leadership in Coventry he pioneered many liturgical and evangelistic ideas which were considered novel at the time, but are now widely accepted.

He made a great contribution to the renaissance of cathedral life which is characteristic of this century.

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Holly Hill reports from New York on a theatre season that impresses even more Off-Broadway than on the Great White Way

Improvement on every front

New York theatre has survived the winter doldrums with surprising stamina: of 20 Broadway shows, nine are new since October and several have braved mixed reviews to find at least break-even point audiences. Just arrived and enthusiastically welcomed are the Steppenwolf Theatre Company's production of *The Grapes of Wrath*, seen last July at the National Theatre, *Lettice and Lorange*, and Howard Davies' staging of *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*, with an American cast starring Kathleen Turner.

The Broadway *Lettice and Lorange* (Ethel Barrymore Theatre) has an inspired new ending: instead of planning to blow up buildings, Lettice and Lotte decide to offer package tours of London's ugliest edifices. As Lettice started on her merry sprial about brutalist architecture, the venture's success seemed so assured that I wanted to inquire how soon they can open a branch to give tours of Manhattan's monstrosities.

In *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof* (Eugene O'Neill Theatre), Kathleen Turner exudes allure and command as Maggie — too much, for I was never in doubt that she would win. The landmark performance is Charles Durning's Big Daddy, so assured of his authority that he never needs to bluster or rant, and therefore vulnerable to complete shock when learning of his cancer.

Under Davies' direction all the characters stay as far as possible from caricature, but apart from Durning the production struck me as rarely rising above the level of competence.

Sweet, thoughtful, erotic and wondrous, *Prelude to a Kiss* (Circle Repertory Company) is a romantic fantasy by Craig Lucas. Lucas is developing into one of America's most inventive and provocative playwrights, with a singular talent for piercing to the heart of relationships in elegantly crafted works (other examples have included *Reckless* and *Blue Window*)



Bernard Hughes (left) kisses Mary-Louise Parker, to the surprise of Debra Moul and Alec Baldwin, in *Prelude to a Kiss*. In the pivotal scene of *Prelude to a Kiss*, a strange old man appears at the wedding reception of a young couple and asks to kiss the bride. The kiss propels the characters and the audience on a precipitous journey into identity, sexuality, morality, compassion and love, with all the scary darkness and sheer enchantment of a classic fairy-tale.

I wish I could prove that statement by illustrations from the play's speeches and events, but may a wicked which spell fall upon any who lessens future audiences' pleasure by relating the play's twists.

Director Norman René's production is bliss, with rising movie star Alec Baldwin and starbound newcomer Mary-Louise

Undoubtedly not a Good Thing

THEATRE

Benedict Nightingale
The Last Englishman
Orange Tree,
Richmond

THE speaker might have been Anatol or Asbion, Odo or Hereward, or any of the improbably-named people in the Orange Tree programme. But it was Alfrida, Hereward the Wake's mistress, who came out with the evening's most memorable line. "Do we have to go on living in this interminable fest?" she wailed. "Everything's so *far* here." Two hours into David Pinner's play, she spoke for many of us.

It was always going to be a tricky enterprise, writing something plausible and pointed about Hereward, Hereward's women and Hereward's great enemy, William the Conqueror. But if John Arden could bring Merlin and Arthur knottily to life in *Island of the Mighty*, and Aneurin Henry II and his rebellious archbishop in *Becket*, there was no reason, in principle, why Pinner should not successfully trawl a period in between. Perhaps this would be the play that restored his dramatic fortunes, somewhat belatedly since his *Fanghorn*, two decades ago.

But from the moment Graham Pontry's pouting Harold declares that "the country is switching like a flea-bitten bitch", and

that fey old joker, John Tordoff's Edward the Confessor, knowingly answers "and you want to scratch her", you realize that the evening has problems, fundamental ones. Historical drama needs some coherence of tone, style and idiom. How can you believe in these tweedy, rushing people when their speech switches between the precious and the facetious, the earnest, poetic and banal?

The play seems intended partly as a debate about government, partly as a triangle drama. In each

case the spirit of freedom is embodied by Geraint Wyn Davies's big, unruly Hereward. He battles Ken Bates' William I, who grim-facedly sets about making "England bloom into the green rose of the civilized world", and he shilly-shallyes between Anne-Marie Marriott's long, languid Alfrida and Kate O'Mara's small, fiery Torfrida, to whom he happens to be married. But nowhere do the human observation, the ideas and the language rise to the occasion.

Wyn Davies and Marriott must feel like lifeguards faced with a waterlogged corpse as they desperately puff life into exchanges such as: "It's because I want you that you must leave me," "I'll wait until you come for me, and come you will," and "Damn you!"

Meanwhile, poor O'Mara has to talk to Hereward like an agony aunt: "Under all that bravado you have a sensitive soul", "Don't blame yourself, my love, we've simply outgrown each other". But then the script unsettles almost everyone, including the director, who is David Pinner himself.

It is hard to evoke a nation in turmoil on so tiny, cramped, visually stark a stage. It means that impending disaster must be signalled by a few crashing chords, followed by cries of "What is heaven's name is going on?" and "It sounds like rebellion, my lord". But the play needs radical rethinking if ever it is to merit a more lavish production. As it is, you sometimes feel you are watching *1066 and All That* transformed into soap opera.

Ken Bates (on left), Knight Mantell and Kate O'Mara

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Period piece with a certain charm

CONCERTS

Richard Morari
OAE/Leonhardt
Queen Elizabeth Hall

THE knock of being a successful minor composer surely lies in rigorous self-censorship. One can go too far, of course. Edward Strauss's burning of not only his own waltzes, but also many rather better ones written by his brothers, Johann and Josef, did not improve his standing with posterity.

But supposing the Baroque composer Jan Dismas Zelenka had burnt everything except a couple of marvellous secret works? On the strength of them we would count him a genius, but on the evidence of pieces such as the *Sinfonia a 8 concertante* he seems more of a quirky bantamweight, capable of isolated inspiration (especially of orchestration and harmony) but not of a sustained, cohesive argument.

Perhaps, however, Saturday's concert placed Zelenka in too close proximity to his contemporaries, Bach and Rameau, at their greatest. Bach's Concerto for

David Fallows

BBC PO/Downes
RNCM, Manchester

OVER the past 10 years the growing success of "historical" performances has had a distinct impact on what our traditional orchestras do. They no longer play Bach, Mozart and Haydn, they treat with caution; and there begins to seem a distinct danger that they may lose Beethoven and Schubert.

Quite how this will develop in

the years to come, nobody can say.

One welcome result might be the performance of more new music; were it not that composers increasingly find the Symphony Orchestra a slightly uncomfortable medium.

But it does mean that there is a renewed search for orchestral repertoire of the years around 1900, a search that has led to the revival of several wonderful works and many interesting ones. And this is where Louis Glass comes in, a Danish composer with an amably traditional style and no fewer than six symphonies to his name, all of which were composed

between the years 1893 and 1926.

Over the next two years, the BBC Philharmonic and Edward Downes plan to explore all six.

They began on Friday with the fifth, the work generally cited as his masterpiece.

By a picon of very bad luck, Glass chose to name this work "Svastika" — at the time still known only as a potent oriental symbol for the wheel of life. But that may not be the main reason why the symphony failed to find a niche in the repertoire.

The four-square rhythmic structures hardly take off, the harmonic language, though skilled, shows



No martyr: Peter Thomson in the role of Lifolf the Butcher

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Manners and modes

TELEVISION

Sheridan Morley

A BAD weekend for those who believe that Britain's decline and fall can be dated from the moment, in about 1964, when people started thinking that photographers and fashion designers might have something meaningful to say. *The South Bank Show* (ITV) gave itself over to Vivienne Westwood, already granted the accolade of an audience with Dame Edna Everage. A founder of punk rock and creator of rubber-wear for the office, Westwood is either something out of a nightmare of Cecil Beaton's or a frown in the ready-to-wear revolution. Either way, giving her 60 minutes was stretching the fabric thin.

It is frightening enough to discover Westwood's conviction that her clothes are a commentary on the state of the nation. More alarming is the number of social commentators willing to endorse the view that a safety-pin through the nose means something more than a certain loss of blood.

On BBC 2, however, they have realized that recent television commercials can be plundered on two quite different levels. As with Denis Norden's *It'll Be Alright On the Night* series, there is something gleefully enjoyable about watching people making fools of themselves in black and white.

But on a deeper level, if the social history of Britain cannot be told in terms of Westwood's punk patchworks, it can surely be told at via the changes in authority figures circumscribed by the ad-researchers of *Washes Whiter*. In the Fifties, unsure of their new industry, advertisers relied on elderly men seated behind lamp desks, or peering thoughtfully through horn-rimmed glasses and invariably dressed in white coats to indicate scientific knowledge.

By the Sixties these men had been replaced by a voice of God, enquiring of surprised housewives how certain they could be of banishing ugly underarm stains. But the authority vanished altogether in the free-wheeling Seventies. James Bond parades slugged it out with pipe-smoking northerners from a J.B. Priestley drama, determined to convey gritty integrity.

The rules for men in commercials have stayed much the same: no wimp, no loser, no gay, and if possible, always show the lad's group of three — two might indicate unhealthy relationships and four are too many to fit the screen. Only in the Eighties did it become possible to show a man alone with his wallet and his car. Now it might even be possible to get the famous nicotine commercial for Strand cigarettes to work, if only the brand were still around and they had not banned that kind of advertising anyway.

little evidence of imagination or consistency of style; and there is often a deadly predictability in the invention. There are several moments of intriguing orchestration here, but the general monotony effect makes it hard to think that Glass holds any part of the answer to the dilemmas facing our orchestras.

Alongside this, Tchaikovsky's Second Piano Concerto emerged as a glowing masterpiece of musical vitality. Stepping in at the last moment, Idil Biret gave an effortlessly sparkling performance which prompted similarly sparkling playing from the orchestra.

BRIAN TATE

Lessons well learnt on the ski slopes

Thousands of teenagers will pack their salopettes and ski boots this Easter and head for the pistes of Europe, unaware that their holiday will coincide with the anniversary of a tragedy that altered the face of school skiing.

Throughout the Eighties school skiing enjoyed a golden age. More and more resorts were opened to school parties and parents grew familiar with the annual demand for money and equipment. But it came to an abrupt end on April 4, 1988, when four teenage boys from Althorpe School, Maidenhead, Berkshire, fell 250 feet to their deaths from the Untersberg mountain near Salzburg.

They had strayed from a group sliding on the snow near the top of the 6,000ft mountain and fallen over the edge of a precipice. What had seemed a sophisticated, if expensive, extension to the school sporting calendar suddenly became the focus of parental grief.



Top of the class: pupils take the ski lift to the mountain slopes

Teacher regards it as education. The pupils think it fun. The result is a newspaper

Natalie Keyte was enjoying being a reporter. She had just spoken to Norman Gifford, the Sussex cricket coach, and was off to interview a research scientist with the Body Shop. She did not have all the good jobs. One of her colleagues had interviewed the pop group Jive Bunny, but it was still a good start to her birthday. She was 10.

Natalie was one of 37 boys and girls, aged nine to 11, who had turned their classroom into a newsroom for the day (David Tyler writes). They began at 8am and finished at 7pm, and a 32-page tabloid newspaper ran off the presses as they went home.

Their paper, the *C-I-H Journal*, was one of 148 entries in the twice-yearly Newspaper Day Competition for schools organized by Campus 2000, the computer system run for schools by *The Times* Network Service.

John Orrey, the fourth-year teacher at the 400-pupil Cross in Hand Church of England School, near Heathfield, East Sussex, was in pains to stress the educational benefits of the competition, which the children clearly saw as simply good fun.

He said: "Producing the newspaper helps us with our language policy. It involves lots of reading, research and writing skills. The children take notes and produce drafts, redrafts and then the final copy."

The paper is produced by

The classroom that turned into a newsroom

teams of three responsible for different sections, so they have to learn how to co-operate with one another. They also have to meet and deal with people outside the school, in selling advertisements and arranging interviews."

Natalie was using all of these skills but summed it up more easily: "I like it."

Mr Orrey might also have added that producing the paper against the clock teaches children to run their own affairs. They sold local advertising worth about £130 and will sell the 700 copies of the paper for 20p each. The paper was printed by a nearby company and paid for by five local businesses. Any profit will be put back into the school computer funds.

The school has taken second prize in the primary section twice, winning £150 in last October's competition. It used the money, together with £50 donated by a local bank, to buy a colour printer. The children worked on nine BBC Master computers, seven of

them borrowed from other schools, and began work three weeks before press day. Initially they practised with the computer programmes they were due to use and allocated the various sections, ranging from national to international news, sport to entertainment, cookery to education and technology to competitions.

About 10 days later they turned their attention to selling advertising and setting up interviews, most of which were done on the school telephone. It would have been very difficult to get a call into Cross in Hand School on that day. The editorial team consisted of two reporters and one other pupil to lay out the pages and input the stories. The news reporters made regular checks with the newsroom of TVS, the regional television station, and took contributions from a central news agency provided by Campus 2000. The agency this time was manned by boys from a school in Staffordshire.

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Giving up a job to go back to college on a grant is proving too hard for some people

Mature students are being courted by higher education institutions. The idea of older people picking up new qualifications at college and returning to the workplace has also struck a chord with employers who face a skills shortage.

The recruitment of mature students, defined as those over 21 when they get to college, has been going well over the past couple of years. One in seven students starting at university is 'mature'.

Last year in the polytechnics, 14.5 per cent of undergraduates on degree and higher national diploma courses were over 21 on entry and 10.1 per cent were women who had passed that point.

There has been little formal investigation into why mature students fall by the wayside, but

figures rates highly.

Karen Phillips, and the father of her baby daughter, have combined debts of £14,000 after both have completed their degrees; hers at Sussex, his in Sheffield. The

specie of ever-increasing overdrafts, combined with the substitution of a regular income with a grant of about £3,000 a year, can daunt the stanchest spirit well before a potential student has even seen a campus.

It is not until a student is over

26 that he or she qualifies for

mature student status, according to the Department of Education and Science, and thereby becomes eligible for up to £340 on top of the normal grant (awarded according to means) of £2,155 (£2,650 in London) as well as child support and, at the moment, housing benefit.

As Mrs Judith Nisbet, academic secretary at Oxford University's first mature students' college, Manchester, says: "The main problem that mature students have to undergo is a complete change of lifestyle when they come. They may go from owning a house or a flat and having a regular income to living in one room on a grant."

Perhaps less obvious is the social shock of finding oneself among hordes of 18-year-olds intent more on having a good time than getting a good degree.

"Young students tend to go wild when they get to college. Mature students tend to study harder and find all the parties in the middle of the night very distracting," Ms Phillips says. "It meant a lot to me to come here and I really appreciated what being at university had to offer."

While there clearly are genera-

Struggles of mature students



young students which might affect their work, Mrs Nisbet, at Manchester College in the centre of Oxford, is anxious that undergraduates muck-in.

"We do not want to become a mature students enclave - there is a great deal more to being at university than just studying and our students are encouraged to participate fully in the university activities," she says.

The social and economic problems facing the older student naturally flow from the fact that universities, on the whole, are geared to taking people straight from school; a homogeneous group not only used to the company of one another, but to essay writing and taking notes. It is in these "study skills" where mature students tend to come unstuck.

Ms Phillips says that the two close friends she studied with at Sussex and who dropped out, did so because they found that the combined pressure of learning how to cope with academic work and the actual work itself was too much for them.

"At the end of the second year the project of producing five essays for assessment plus exams was too much. They left although they were easily capable of getting a degree," she says.

She went to Ruskin College, Oxford, where she prepared for two years for her entry to university, after working as a secretary for six years. It was this foundation which, she found, sustained her through a three-year honours course in history and particularly

a year long gap when she took time off to have her baby daughter.

"We encourage students to get a couple of A levels or take part of an Open University course in order to get started. Exams come very quickly here and without techniques perfected at A level they would be very difficult," Mrs Nisbet says.

Many of the problems facing mature students, such as accommodation and finance, can be overcome if they study part time, either through the Open University or at a college like Birkbeck, part of the University of London. Naturally they meanwhile face the burden of studying and working at the same time which puts them under pressure and often delays the completion of degrees by two or three years.

Yet even Birkbeck, founded in 1823 with the express aim, according to the London University Calendar, to "serve the interests of mature students", has a long way to go in furnishing students with the skills they need to process the information that will be thrown at them as undergraduates.

Paul Cattigan, aged 26, is one of the younger students at Birkbeck College and therefore can still remember his school days, yet he says the "main problem in returning to study comes in essay writing and note taking. There was no formal attempt to break me in gently when I arrived. We were expected to write essays from the word go, and as a result lots of students drop out in their first few weeks."

Students leaving courses or failing 1988 (%)

	Students under 21 Men	Students under 21 Women	Students over 21 Men	Students over 21 Women
Arts	9.9	8.7	16.7	13.8
Social Studies	9.4	7.7	15.1	15.2
Pure Science	14.2	9.7	25.2	18.4
Applied Science	16.4	13.7	18.7	14.7
Med/Dent/Vet	15.8	13.7	15.2	16.7
Multi Disc	22.5	14.3	29.4	22.2
Total	13.8	9.9	19.8	16.1
Total both sexes	12.2	—	—	—

Source: Universities Statistical Record/The Times



Tension mounts as the deadline gets closer: pupils write copy and confer with the editor, John Williams, at Cross in Hand Primary School

PREVIEW

TODAY Art & Auctions

● TUESDAY Theatre & Cabaret ● WEDNESDAY Rock, Jazz & World Music ● THURSDAY Opera, Dance & Books ● FRIDAY Classical Music

The Times Preview features a different area of the arts each day Monday to Friday, as indicated above, including events in the following seven days. Plus the Cinema Guide

ART EXHIBITIONS

David Lee

NEW IN LONDON

BALRAJ KHANNA: Accomplished painter by an Indian artist and novelist in whose pictures free forms float in expanses of intense colour.

Festival Hall, South Bank Centre, SE1 (01-821 0631). Daily 10am-10pm, free, until May 29. From today.

MARIO SIRONI: An Italian commercial artist's work for Fiat from 1930-1950 which exploits, at different times, fascist symbolism and modernist imagery.

Design Museum, Butler's Wharf, Shad Thames SE1 (01-403 6933). Tues-Sun 11.30am-6.30pm, £2 (concs £1), until May 13. From Tues.

MASTERS OF THE GLASGOW SCHOOL OF ART: Works by tutors, Jack Knott and James Robertson among them, at the school which has produced an outstanding crop of young painters work during the 1980s.

Maryhill Fine Art, 40 Conduit Street, W1 (01-494 5573). Mon-Fri 10am-5pm, free, until May 4. From Tues.

THE BATTLE OF BRITAIN EXPERIENCE: Tableaux, newscrolls and the aeroplanes themselves evoking the battle that saved so many, 50 years ago.

RAF Museum, Graham's Park Way, Hendon, NW9 (01-205 2265). Daily 10am-6pm, £3.50 (concs), until October 31. From Wed.

SUZANNE TREISTER: New paintings, typically post-modernist in their eclectic imagery and abundant art references.

Edmund Teller Gallery, 13 Old Burlington Street, W1 (01-343 0343). Mon-Sat 2pm-5pm, Tues-Fri 11am-5pm, Sat 11am-1pm, free, until May 5. From Wed.

THE END OF WORDS: Colleges and picture poems from 1948-70 inspired by political discontent and artistic anarchy by dissident Czech Jiri Kolar.

Institute of Contemporary Arts, The Mall, SW1 (01 930 0493). Daily 12-8pm, £1.50, until May 27. From Thurs.

CONTINUING

YOKO ONO: Oil and new objects with texts, performance pieces and sound works, all in a conceptual vein.

Riverside Studios, Crisp Road, W8 (01-741 2251). Tues-Sun 1-5pm, free, until April 22.

LUCIAN FREUD, FRANK AUBRECHT, RICHARD DEACON: Works by two "old master" painters, some of them acquired recently (and very expensively), and no fewer than 16 sculptures by Turner Prize winner Richard Deacon.

Sefton Collection, 93A Boundary Road, NW8 (01 824 8289). Fri-Sat 12pm-5pm, free, until November.

JOSEPH WRIGHT OF DERBY (1734-1797): Over 100 paintings depicting

dramatic, original scenes of workmen, scientific experiments and more traditional landscapes and portraits.

Tate Gallery, Millbank, SW1 (01 821 7128). Mon-Sat 10am-5.30pm, Sun 5.30pm, £3, until April 22.

EDWARD WADSWORTH (1888-1949): A centenary exhibition of work by a pioneer British surrealist.

Camden Arts Centre, Arkwright Road, NW3 (01-435 2483). Mon-Fri 10.30am-5.30pm, Sat-Sun 1-5pm, free, until April 22.

ERIC RAVILIOUS (1903-1942): Examples of every medium he worked in: ceramics, lithographs, woodcuts, watercolours, fabrics and furniture.

Decorative Arts Group, 9 Church Street, NW8 (01-706 2448). Mon-Sat 10am-7pm, free, until May 5.

FAKE? THE ART OF DECEPTION: Six hundred objects about the faking of art from all periods, from "wrong" Elstree sculptures to bogus Hogneys.

British Museum, Great Russell Street, WC1 (01-636 1555). Mon-Sat 10am-5pm, Sun 2.30-6pm, £3 (concs), until September 2.

PAINTING IN FOCUS: Winter Landscapes by German Romantic painter Casper David Friedrich (1774-1840) comes under focus in a series of six, including comparison with other versions.

The National Gallery, Trafalgar Square, WC2 (01-838 3321). Mon-Sat 10am-5pm, Sun 2-6pm, free, until May 29.

OUTSIDE LONDON

SOPHIE BYRD: Sculptures and drawings by a modern animalier who fashions her menagerie from unusual materials such as bedsprings and scrolls of wire.

Newport Museum and Art Gallery, John Frost Square (0835 840064). Mon-Thurs 10am-5pm, Fri 9.30am-4.30pm, Sat 9.30am-4pm, free, until May 19. From today.

THE HARROW CONNECTION: Works from 1958-1983 by ex-students and staff of the first vocational British ceramics course, set up at Harrow School of Art, and featuring such luminaries of pottery as Janice Tanton, Michael Cawson, Sarah Walton and Jane Hartley.

Coral Gallery, The Friary, Cardiff (0223 355454). Mon-Sat 9am-5pm, free, until May 5. From today.

EMBLEMS OF ENCHANTMENT: Figurative paintings with a romantic bent by two members of the Fauve Brotherhood, Graham Arnold and Annie Ovenden.

Silk Top Hat Gallery, 4 Quality Square, Ludlow (0584 5383). Mon-Sat 10am-5pm, free, until May 5. From today.

KEEPERS OF LIGHT: Photographs of dancers and art students by David Ward which claim the all-embracing brief of exploring "the nature of space, scale and the human touch".

Cambridge Darkroom, Gwydir Street, Cambridge (0233 350725). Tues-Sun 10am-5pm, Sun 2-5pm, free, until May 13. From Tues.

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HENRY MOORE: Nine major bronzes shown outdoors, where the sculptor's work frequently looks to best.

Pollok Country Park, Glasgow (041 227 0780). Sunday, midday-4pm, £5; £3.20, until May 27. From Thurs.

JOSEPH WRIGHT OF DERBY (1734-1797): Over 100 paintings depicting

On Sunday the Royal Court Theatre presents a day of fund-raising activities in aid of its Olivier Building Appeal. Act I (midday-4pm); a bazaar of theatrical memorabilia; Act II (6pm); champagne reception, followed by the Royal Court Celebrity Cabaret and the "grand" auction. Items on sale include a shirt worn by Laurence Olivier in the film *Hamlet* (1948) (pictured left), a signed folio edition of *The Last Ones* by Samuel Beckett, with illustrations by Klabane, and Lord Snowdon's famous photograph of Olivier as Archie Rice in *The Entertainer*.

Royal Court Theatre, Sloane Square, London SW1 (01-836 2428). Sunday, midday-4pm, £5; 6pm-11pm, £25, £50.

WORD-WATCHING: Answers from page 22

CRUMEN: A subterranean gland in bees that secretes a waxy substance, from the Latin *cromus*, a patem: "There is no subterranean gland or crumen in a wasp."

PTARMIC: (a) Exciting or causing sneezing, irritation, or a substance that makes you sneeze, from the Greek *pteron* a sneeze: "The use of ptarmic does rather increase a deflation of humours from the head."

PARMALES: (b) Any of the Parmales order of microscopic single-celled algae of the polar regions, from the Latin *lana* a small shield, because the walls of the plant consist of whiteish siliceous plates: "The parmales may be small — they can be seen only in the electron microscope."

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TELEVISION & RADIO

Compiled by Peter Dear
and Gillian Maxey

Stemming the nuclear tide

Peter Waymark

• James Cutler of Yorkshire Television has made a name for himself with a series of gloves-off documentaries on the links between radioactive plutonium and leukaemia. He returns to the attack in Sellafield: the Contaminated Coast (Channel 4, 9.00pm), suggesting that despite the plant's attempt to improve its image by reducing discharges into the sea and mounting an expensive public relations campaign, there is still much cause for alarm. If many of the facts and arguments are familiar, Cutler manages to bring them up fresh. It is startling to be told that Sellafield has the worst safety record of any nuclear plant in the world apart from Chernobyl. And the fact that British Nuclear Fuels has already paid out £500,000 compensation in cancer cases involving the Sellafield workforce implies that all is not exactly well. The film claims to present new evidence that nuclear waste dumped into the sea has spread around the coast and that contamination is moving inland.



Testing for contamination along Sellafield's coast (C4, 9.00pm)

• With the Hubble space telescope due to be launched from Cape Kennedy tomorrow morning, Horizon (BBC2, 8.10pm) fills in the background to a project that has been more than 40 years in the making, bedevilled by delays and spiralling costs, and which could be the biggest step forward in astronomy since Galileo's telescope of 1609. With the ability to see 10 times more clearly than any existing ground-based telescope, the Hubble has the potential to report back on the origins of galaxies, investigate Black Holes and throw new light on the size, age and fate of the universe. And bits of it were made in Britain.

• Valentine Harris, the genial presenter of Italian Regional Cookery (BBC2, 7.25pm), does not try to overkill her wares. "Tuscan food," she declares, "could never be accused of subtlety." I cannot say my mouth watered at the sight of her fish stew or oxtail cooked with celery, although they made a change from pizza and pasta. The series promises to be stronger on local colour than systematic instruction and those wanting essential facts such as quantities and cooking times will have to send for the fact sheet.

• Fun and Games (ITV, 5.10pm) is back, with the jolly Rob Buckman and Celia Hoyles proving once more that maths can be fun. But it is curious that a show going out in the children's slot should have no children taking part.

BECOME A FATHER

• 8.00 Pages from Caesar. 8.35 Mother Teresa. Mother Teresa of Calcutta with a hospitality prayer for Holy Week.
• 8.30 BBC Breakfast. News presented by Nicholas Witchell and Fiona Foster. Includes regular national and international news, business reports, sports bulletin, regional news, weather and travel information. Paul Callan reviews the morning newspapers 8.55. Regional news and weather.
• 9.00 News and weather followed by Children's BBC Eco-Stereogram introduced by Simon Parkin and Andi Pease. Begins with Beethoven with Cats and Co. Cartoon adventures of an alley-cat (7). 8.35 Why Don't You...? A new children's adventure series 8.55 Paddington Peas (7).

• 10.00 News and weather followed by The New Fast and Benney Show. Flintstone cartoon 10.30. Playdays (7).

• 10.35 Mother Theresa with a prayer for all drivers.

• 11.00 News and weather followed by Open Air. Presenters Eamonn Holmes and Gloria Hunniford examine the way television treats disaster victims.

• 12.00 News and weather followed by Daytime Live. Presented by Andy Craig, Sue Cook and Tina Baker. 12.55 Regional news and weather.

• 1.00 One O'Clock News with John Humphrys. Weather.

• 1.30 Neighbours. Suburban Cox soap. (Cox) 1.35 Turnabout. Bob Curing press quiz. 1.45 Word quiz.

• 2.15 The Big Quiz. Hosted by Michael Holness. Humorous quiz about an all-robot human. Starring Lee Majors.

• 3.05 Buzzers. Today's programme offers ways of "going green", and reveals some tips for growing top tomatoes. Meanwhile, Clare Connelly conjures up a quick meal and Jan Beaney makes some fashionable jewellery 3.30.

• 3.30 News and Weather. 3.55 Snacks (7).

• 4.10 The Quicx Chat Show. Fun and games with puppeteer Keith Harris (7) 4.30 Bravest Star. Cartoon adventures of the galaxy's bravest marshal.

• 4.45 Newsround 5.05 Blue Peter. The Blue Peter team is out in the garden, planning some space-age tombs which seeds which have been more than five years old since the Earth on an American space-craft. (Cox)

• 5.35 Neighbours (7). (Cox)

• 6.00 Six O'Clock News with Andrew Harvey and Moira Stuart. Weather.

• 6.30 Regional News Magazines.

• 7.00 Mimes with Michael Bell. American game show host Pat Sajak and Jools Holland.

• 7.35 The Queen of Britain. Another look at the political correctness of ITN. This week, the programme explores the film versions of best-selling novels, including clips from *A Tale of Two Cities*, *The Man in the Iron Mask* and *Jesus of Nazareth*.

• 8.00 In Sickness and in Health. Warren Mitchell stars as the East End bigot Alf Garnett in this hit comedy. Tonight, Alf and his fiancée Mrs Hollingberry set off for Australia to meet her wealthy brother (7).

• 8.30 Joint Account. In this week's episode of Don Webb's smooth domestic comedy house-husband Peter Egan is thrilled when he is given a job as head of an advisory board. However, wife Hannah Gordon keeps secret the fact that he did not win his job on merit alone. (Cox)

• 9.00 Nine O'Clock News with Michael Buerk. Regional news and weather.

• 9.30 Programme for Parents. Truth. Robin McIlroy examines the advantages and pitfalls of home ownership, talking to owners who have made the most of a booming market and to the losers who face higher mortgage rates – some of whom have had their homes repossessed.

• 10.15 Miami Vice. Slick police drama set in coastal Florida.

• 10.35 The Rock 'n' Roll Years. Look at 1958, the year in which Fats and Little Richard conquered the North Pole. Michael Jackson's plane crashed in Munich and De Gaulle came out of retirement. Includes music from Chuck Berry, Cliff Richard and Buddy Holly (7).

• 11.35 Advice Shop. An NHS special, examining the effect the new GPs' contract will have on patients (7).

• 11.55 Mother Teresa with a prayer for the unwary Weather.

• 12.00 Weather.

TELE LONDON

• 6.00 TV-am begins with News and Good Morning Britain presented by Linda Mitchell and, at 7.00, by Mike Morris and Lorraine Kelly. With news at 8.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.30 and 8.30, 8.30 Waccadey for the young, presented by Timmy Mallett.

• 8.35 Cross Words. The first of a new series of the crossword quiz game presented by Tom O'Connor.

• 9.00 Out of This World. Episode one of a new children's serial about an American teenage girl whose father happens to be an alien.

• 10.40 This Morning. Magazine series presented by Judy Finnigan and Richard Madeley. Today's edition includes items on astrology, gardening and fashion. With national and international news at 10.45 and regional news at 11.45 followed by national weather.

• 12.10 Playbox. For the young, presented by Poi Coombs and Keith Chegwin 12.30 Home and Away. Australian soap about a couple and their five foster children.

• 1.00 The Queen of Britain. Another look at the political correctness of ITN. Weather 1.30 Thomas News and weather 1.45 Melvyn Bragg. Today's programme offers ways of "going green", and reveals some tips for growing top tomatoes. Meanwhile, Clare Connelly conjures up a quick meal and Jan Beaney makes some fashionable jewellery 3.30.

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• 11.55 Mother Teresa with a prayer for the unwary Weather.

• 12.00 Weather.

BBC 2

• 8.40 Flash Gordon (b/w) (7). 8.55 Film: *The Saint's Vacation* (1941, b/w). Hugh Sinclair stars in this adaptation of Leslie Charteris's novel *Gazaway*, in which Simon Templar does anything but.

• 9.00 Director by Leslie Fenton.

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• 11.35 Mother Teresa with a prayer for the unwary Weather.

• 12.00 Weather.

CHANNEL 4

• 8.40 The Channel Four Daily. 8.55 Film: *The Art of Landscape*. Film of specialist landscapers, accompanied by classical or ambient music.

• 9.00 As It Happens. Michael Groth films behind the scenes at London Zoo.

• 9.30 Time To Remember (b/w). The story of the Dunkirk evacuation (7).

• 10.00 Business Daily.

• 10.30 Sesame Street.

• 1.00 Interviewing. Part four – grievance and disciplinary (7). (Teletext).

• 2.30 Animation on 4: Academy Leader Variations. A collaboration between international animators.

• 2.35 Film: *A Place of One's Own* (1944, b/w) starring Margaret Lockwood, Barbara Mullen and James Mason. Atmospheric ghost story based on the novel by Osbert Sitwell. Directed by Bernard Knowles.

• 3.00 News and weather followed by *The Last Place on Earth*. The Kingdom of Zork (7).

• 3.30 Regional news and weather.

• 4.00 Playbox. With David Taylor 4.30 Plumber. With John Sessions.

• 5.00 Film: *Days of Glory* (1944, b/w). Gregory Peck made his film debut in this tale of how a group of Russian freedom fighters rescue nine, a dancer abandoned behind the German lines during the Second World War. Directed by Jacques Tourneur.

• 6.00 DEP II featuring Music from *Star Trek* and Computer Dreams.

• 7.00 Royal Institution Christmas Lectures (7).

• 7.30 Green Clews (7). 7.30 Better Than New. Char reservation (7).

• 8.00 News and weather followed by Songs of Praise (7). (Ceefax) 2.35.

• 8.30 Behind the Screen: The Ten Commandments.

• 9.00 News and weather followed by *The Last Place on Earth*. The Kingdom of Zork (7).

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Top Olivier award goes to gamble on nostalgia

By Simon Tait

PROVINCIAL theatre, almost forbidden territory for important drama awards in recent years, triumphed last night's Lawrence Olivier Awards when *Return to the Forbidden Planet* swept aside the favourite for the best musical award, *Miss Saigon*, to take this year's prize.

The work, written by Bob Carlton and subtitled *Shakespeare's Rock Opera*, is a musical space-age version of *The Tempest*. It opened at the Belgrade Theatre, Coventry, before transferring to the Cambridge Theatre in the West End. The move has been seen as almost an inspired bunch on the part of Stoll Moss Theatres, owners of the Cambridge Theatre, the producer Pola Jones, and the independent company and crew, Rhythm and Method, which put the show together.

The whole narrative is interspersed with rock and pop songs from the 1950s and 60s, and its box office success has to some extent been put down to nostalgia.

Its critical success, however, has been crowned by winning the Larry, as the awards have become known, against the opposition of *Miss Saigon*, *The Baker's Wife* and *Buddy*.

Miss Saigon's two leading players were, however, among the winners of the awards presented by the Society of West End Theatre. Lea Salonga won the best musical actress award, and Jonathan Pryce in his first musical part was chosen as best musical actor.

The best lyric play award was less of a surprise, going to David Hare's *Racing Demon*, which opened at the Cottesloe Theatre in the Royal National Theatre in February. Oliver Ford Davies won the best

actor award for *Racing Demon*, while Michael Bryant was named best supporting actor for *Racing Demon*, *Hamlet* and *The Voysey Inheritance*.

Racing Demon is a tragic-comic study of the agonies of fading faith in a middle-aged south London vicar, played by Mr Davies.

Those awards were the first of eight for the Royal National Theatre, a revival after being only sparsely represented among the winners last year.

Best actress was Fiona Shaw for her performances in the Royal National Theatre's *The Good Person of Sichuan*, the Royal Shakespeare Company's *Electra* and the Old Vic's *As You Like It*. Jeremy Northam was the most promising newcomer for *The Voysey Inheritance* (RNT).

The designer of the year was Bob Crowley for the RNT's *Mr Rainey's Black Bottom*, *Hedda Gabler* and *Ghetto*, and the RSC's *The Plantagenets*.

The Observer award for outstanding achievement went to Declan Donnellan for his RNT production of *Fuente Ovejuna*.

Michael Bogdanov was director of the year for *The Wars of the Roses* (Old Vic).

Alan Bennett took the Olivier comedy award for his hilarious *Single Spies*, a study of the Anthony Blunt affair and of Guy Burgess in Soviet exile. Michael Gambon gave the best comedy performance in Alan Ayckbourn's *Man of the Moment*.

The most outstanding opera achievement was Komische Oper's *Orpheus and Euridice* at the Royal Opera House.

The London Contemporary Dance Theatre won the dance award for its production of *Kim Brandstrup's Orfeo*.

Offering for Palm Sunday



Soso Amobi, aged six, of Notting Hill, London, bringing palms to Father John Brewscell for a Palm Sunday service at All Saints' Church, Kensington, at which Christ's triumphal entry to Jerusalem was commemorated

Kinnock shapes strategy for election after lead in polls

Continued from page 1

ment, which is expected to distil into about 10,000 words the 120,000-word conclusions of the policy review, include Mr John Smith the shadow Chancellor of the Exchequer; Mr Gerald Kaufman, the shadow Foreign Secretary; Mr Roy Hattersley, the deputy leader and shadow Home Secretary; and Mr Tom Sawyer, deputy general secretary of the National Union of Public Employees and chairman of Labour's home policy committee.

The document will be considered at a special meeting of Labour's national executive committee on May 15 and published at about the end of that month.

Labour leaders accept that the

Government's severe difficulties, including questions over the leadership of Mrs Margaret Thatcher, have also thrown the spotlight on to Labour, its policies and the likely composition of a Labour government.

With the policy review almost over and the imminent publication of the campaign document, they believe that they are now ready to satisfy growing public interest.

Mr Peter Mandelson, Labour's director of campaigns and communications, said yesterday: "Over the last two months, our opinion poll lead had converted into a settled view that Labour could win the next election. That is a significant change in the political climate. Whatever

Labour does, it means that public attention is bound to be trained on the strains and stresses that the Government is undergoing. However, an appetite is also being stimulated by the Government's troubles to discover what would be the shape and direction of the next Labour government. That pressure is growing, but it is welcome because the party is ready to respond to it."

Labour has faced Conservative jibes that it is failing to come clean on its policies. However, Mr Mandelson said that the party should not be "hassled and harried" into publishing policies until they were ready to be unveiled, because, in the long term, they would be more soundly based. He said that Labour

did not want to repeat the mistakes of the Conservatives, who, he said, had produced ill-thought-out schemes after policy-making "on the hoof" on education, health and the community charge.

Labour leaders accept that they are likely to have to adjust the pace and timing of their campaigning plans because of the Government's troubles. Their original expectation was of an election in June, next year, and campaign plans had been geared to that date. They now believe that the election cannot come earlier than the autumn of next year and that a real possibility exists for the following spring.

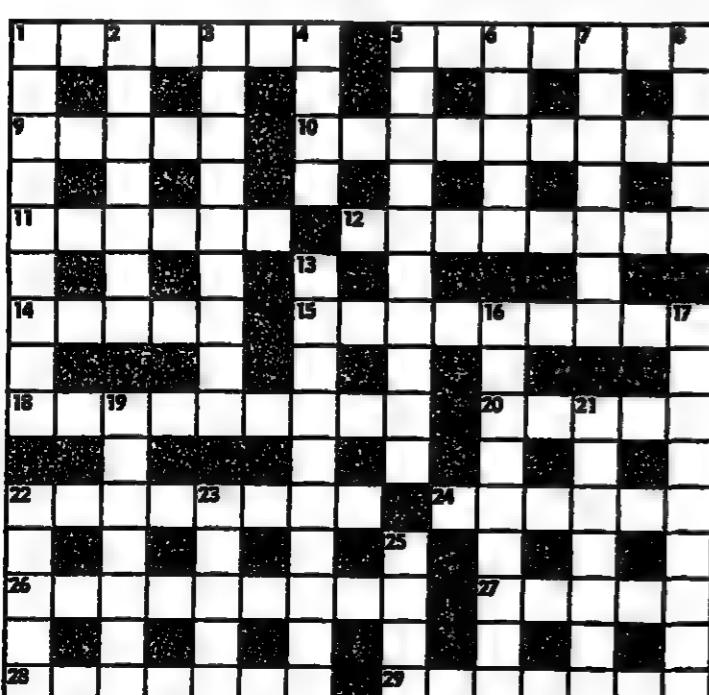
The final "phase three" reports of the three-stage policy review will be ready over the next few weeks in time for preparation of the campaign document. The change in the block vote is seen as vital by party leaders to end the public view of Labour as subservient to the unions.

It is Mr Kinnock's most dramatic reform and not without risk because the constituency parties that will be the beneficiaries have always been seen as the bastion of the left.

But the drive to one member, one vote throughout the party, for selection and soon for elections to the national executive, has moved most of the constituents out of the hands of the hard left.

Mr Kinnock believes that party members are now ready to exercise their power responsibly.

THE TIMES CROSSWORD PUZZLE NO 18,263



ACROSS

- 1 Common sorts left to the end (7).
- 2 A male wearing a cast-off may appear embarrassed (7).
- 3 He wrote 'Labour, a Way Back' (5).
- 10 What the marksman needs is transport to the range (9).
- 11 Sun for which doctor's been let in by relation (6).
- 12 The latter years of Einstein perhaps (8).
- 14 A little place, nicely cooked, is enough for old people (5).
- 15 Lean to exert force (9).
- 18 Faulty one — or sure to become faulty (9).
- 20 A means of fixing pay (5).
- 22 Sweet dough with harmful content (8).
- 24 There's some depression about the pages being spotty (6).
- 26 Blast the twister! (9).
- 27 Moderates like filling in survey return (5).
- 28 Using only the fingers? No hands (7).
- 29 Having to agree without reservation (7).
- 31 Exceptionally endearing — so cordial (9).
- 32 Offensive in which no-one will take part (7).
- 33 Keeping note "X" turned it on (9).
- 34 Became engaged and bolt (4).
- 35 Dexterity may be built into a 8 (10).
- 36 The man occupied by gold's a beast (5).
- 37 Alcoholic liquor created unique artist (7).
- 38 Groom's outfit (5).
- 39 In conversation, misinform adolescent (10).
- 40 Will meant to reorganise following an investigation (9).
- 41 The state of modern knitwear (3,6).
- 42 Taking a chance, hide cutting gear (7).
- 43 Putting RAF officers into existing accommodation (7).
- 44 Quiet and fearful when handled clumsily (5).
- 45 A little place that's not lived in by the owner (5).
- 46 Correct for the current rise (4).

WORD-WATCHING

A daily safari through the language jungle. Which of the possible definitions is correct?

By Phillip Howard

CRUMEN

- a. A leather's wallet
- b. A deer's teat-gut
- c. Cow's bryster meal

PTARMIC

- a. Something to make you amuse
- b. The fiddling parrasian
- c. A Macmillan industry melt

PARMALES

- a. Above-average men
- b. Polar planktonic algae
- c. A Trojan hero, eponymus for kraggledeca

CREDITY

- a. Hesitation
- b. Elision
- c. A tendency to fall over

Answers on page 20

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London & SE traffic, roadworks

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M-ways/roads M25-M4, 734

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National traffic and roadworks

737

West Country, 738

Midlands, 739

East Anglia, 740

North-west England, 741

North-east England, 743

Scotland, 744

Northern Ireland, 745

AA Roadwatch is charged at 5p for 5 seconds (peak and standard) 5p for 12 seconds (off peak).

Concise crossword, page 20

WEATHER

have a dry day with sunny periods. The far south-east and East Anglia will have an isolated shower. North western Wales and England will have a bright start but cloud and light rain later. North-eastern England and eastern parts of Scotland will be cloudy with some rain as will north-west Scotland and Northern Ireland. Outlook: Bright with showers.

ABROAD

TODAY: 1-Storm; 2-Cloudy; 3-Sunny; 4-Cloudy; 5-Cloudy; 6-Cloudy; 7-Cloudy; 8-Cloudy; 9-Cloudy; 10-Cloudy; 11-Cloudy; 12-Cloudy; 13-Cloudy; 14-Cloudy; 15-Cloudy; 16-Cloudy; 17-Cloudy; 18-Cloudy; 19-Cloudy; 20-Cloudy; 21-Cloudy; 22-Cloudy; 23-Cloudy; 24-Cloudy; 25-Cloudy; 26-Cloudy; 27-Cloudy; 28-Cloudy; 29-Cloudy; 30-Cloudy; 31-Cloudy; 32-Cloudy; 33-Cloudy; 34-Cloudy; 35-Cloudy; 36-Cloudy; 37-Cloudy; 38-Cloudy; 39-Cloudy; 40-Cloudy; 41-Cloudy; 42-Cloudy; 43-Cloudy; 44-Cloudy; 45-Cloudy; 46-Cloudy; 47-Cloudy; 48-Cloudy; 49-Cloudy; 50-Cloudy; 51-Cloudy; 52-Cloudy; 53-Cloudy; 54-Cloudy; 55-Cloudy; 56-Cloudy; 57-Cloudy; 58-Cloudy; 59-Cloudy; 60-Cloudy; 61-Cloudy; 62-Cloudy; 63-Cloudy; 64-Cloudy; 65-Cloudy; 66-Cloudy; 67-Cloudy; 68-Cloudy; 69-Cloudy; 70-Cloudy; 71-Cloudy; 72-Cloudy; 73-Cloudy; 74-Cloudy; 75-Cloudy; 76-Cloudy; 77-Cloudy; 78-Cloudy; 79-Cloudy; 80-Cloudy; 81-Cloudy; 82-Cloudy; 83-Cloudy; 84-Cloudy; 85-Cloudy; 86-Cloudy; 87-Cloudy; 88-Cloudy; 89-Cloudy; 90-Cloudy; 91-Cloudy; 92-Cloudy; 93-Cloudy; 94-Cloudy; 95-Cloudy; 96-Cloudy; 97-Cloudy; 98-Cloudy; 99-Cloudy; 100-Cloudy; 101-Cloudy; 102-Cloudy; 103-Cloudy; 104-Cloudy; 105-Cloudy; 106-Cloudy; 107-Cloudy; 108-Cloudy; 109-Cloudy; 110-Cloudy; 111-Cloudy; 112-Cloudy; 113-Cloudy; 114-Cloudy; 115-Cloudy; 116-Cloudy; 117-Cloudy; 118-Cloudy; 119-Cloudy; 120-Cloudy; 121-Cloudy; 122-Cloudy; 123-Cloudy; 124-Cloudy; 125-Cloudy; 126-Cloudy; 127-Cloudy; 128-Cloudy; 129-Cloudy; 130-Cloudy; 131-Cloudy; 132-Cloudy; 133-Cloudy; 134-Cloudy; 135-Cloudy; 136-Cloudy; 137-Cloudy; 138-Cloudy; 139-Cloudy; 140-Cloudy; 141-Cloudy; 142-Cloudy; 143-Cloudy; 144-Cloudy; 145-Cloudy; 146-Cloudy; 147-Cloudy; 148-Cloudy; 149-Cloudy; 150-Cloudy; 151-Cloudy; 152-Cloudy; 153-Cloudy; 154-Cloudy; 155-Cloudy; 156-Cloudy; 157-Cloudy; 158-Cloudy; 159-Cloudy; 160-Cloudy; 161-Cloudy; 162-Cloudy; 163-Cloudy; 164-Cloudy; 165-Cloudy; 166-Cloudy; 167-Cloudy; 168-Cloudy; 169-Cloudy; 170-Cloudy; 171-Cloudy; 172-Cloudy; 173-Cloudy; 174-Cloudy; 175-Cloudy; 176-Cloudy; 177-Cloudy; 178-Cloudy; 179-Cloudy; 180-Cloudy; 181-Cloudy; 182-Cloudy; 183-Cloudy; 184-Cloudy; 185-Cloudy; 186-Cloudy; 187-Cloudy; 188-Cloudy; 189-Cloudy; 190-Cloudy; 191-Cloudy; 192-Cloudy; 193-Cloudy; 194-Cloudy; 195-Cloudy; 196-Cloudy; 197-Cloudy; 198-Cloudy; 199-Cloudy; 200-Cloudy; 201-Cloudy; 202-Cloudy; 203-Cloudy; 204-Cloudy; 205-Cloudy; 206-Cloudy; 207-Cloudy; 208-Cloudy; 209-Cloudy; 210-Cloudy; 211-Cloudy; 212-Cloudy; 213-Cloudy; 214-Cloudy; 215-Cloudy; 216-Cloudy; 217-Cloudy; 218-Cloudy; 219-Cloudy; 220-Cloudy; 221-Cloudy; 222-Cloudy; 223-Cloudy; 224-Cloudy; 225-Cloudy; 226-Cloudy; 227-Cloudy; 228-Cloudy; 229-Cloudy; 230-Cloudy; 231-Cloudy; 232-Cloudy; 233-Cloudy; 234-Cloudy; 235-Cloudy; 236-Cloudy; 237-Cloudy; 238-Cloudy; 239-Cloudy; 240-Cloudy; 241-Cloudy; 242-Cloudy; 243-Cloudy; 244-Cloudy; 245-Cloudy; 246-Cloudy; 247-Cloudy; 248-Cloudy; 249-Cloudy; 250-Cloudy; 251-Cloudy; 252-Cloudy; 253-Cloudy; 254-Cloudy; 255-Cloudy; 256-Cloudy; 257-Cloudy; 258-Cloudy; 259-Cloudy; 260-Cloudy; 261-Cloudy; 262-Cloudy; 263-Cloudy; 264-Cloudy; 265-Cloudy; 266-Cloudy; 267-Cloudy; 268-Cloudy; 269-Cloudy; 270-Cloudy; 271-Cloudy; 272-Cloudy; 273-Cloudy; 274-Cloudy; 275-Cloudy; 276-Cloudy; 277-Cloudy; 278-Cloudy; 279-Cloudy; 280-Cloudy; 281-Cloudy; 282-Cloudy; 283-Cloudy; 284-Cloudy; 285-Cloudy; 286-Cloudy; 287-Cloudy; 288-Cloudy; 289-Cloudy; 290-Cloudy; 291-Cloudy; 292-Cloudy; 293-Cloudy; 294-Cloudy; 295-Cloudy; 296-Cloudy; 297-Cloudy; 298-Cloudy; 299-Cloudy; 300-Cloudy; 301-Cloudy; 302-Cloudy; 303-Cloudy; 304-Cloudy; 305-Cloudy; 306-Cloudy; 307-Cloudy; 308-Cloudy; 309-Cloudy; 310-Cloudy; 311-Cloudy; 312-Cloudy; 313-Cloudy; 314-Cloudy; 315-Cloudy; 316-Cloudy; 317-Cloudy; 318-Cloudy; 319-Cloudy; 320-Cloudy; 321-Cloudy; 322-Cloudy; 32

Executive Editor
 David Brewerton
 CHANGE ON WEEK

THE POUND

US dollar 1.6385 (-0.0075)

W German mark 2.7773 (-0.0013)

Exchange index 87.5 (-0.4)

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 Share 1740.2 (-28.5)

FT-SE 100 2221.1 (-26.8)

USM (Datastream) 141.29 (-0.89)

Hopes of victory at Laing

LAING Properties is confident it will narrowly escape the clutches of Pall Mall Properties, the joint venture between P&O and Chelsfield, whose 725p-a-share cash bid closes at 1pm this Thursday. Mr Brian Chilver, the chairman, said:

Pall Mall now holds about 41 per cent of Laing after buying another 10 per cent in the market on Friday, but Mr Chilver said Laing, which considers 46 per cent of its equity is in "friendly hands," must convince holders of just 2 per cent more of the equity to thwart the £480 million bid.

But with 33 per cent of Laing's convertible shares, which convert in May, Pall Mall could eventually win even if it fails on Thursday to get the required 50.1 per cent.

Tampas, page 24

Ex-Halfords chief will join Isopad

Mr Ian Staples, the Halfords managing director who resigned from Boots last week, wiping £43 million off its market capitalization, is to join Isopad International, the control equipment maker, as chief executive.

Mr Staples, credited with turning Halfords under Ward White from a 1983 lossmaker to a success with pre-tax profits of £25.6 million in 1989, was head-hunted by Mr Brian McGowan, Isopad's non-executive chairman.

Isopad came to the market via a placing two years ago valuing it at £13.6 million. At 170p it is capitalized at £16.5 million. Pre-tax profits for the year to January 1989 were £2.5 million on a turnover of £13.3 million.

Forgings ahead

Deliveries by the British forgings industry to commercial vehicle makers in the last quarter of 1989 slid 23 per cent against 1988. But deliveries to car makers were up 17 per cent and the industry overall ended up with total growth of 3.8 per cent.

Banks to profit

Bank Hapoalim, Israel's largest bank, earned a net profit of \$46 million last year after a loss of \$32 million in 1988. Bank Leumi, Israel's second largest bank, earned a 1989 net profit of \$78 million (\$124,000 loss).

First for Killik

Killik & Co, the private client broker, today becomes Britain's first firm to be allowed to change its method of settlement. It will transfer responsibility for settlement, including the handling of client money, to Sociecar, its settling agent, a subsidiary of Societe Generale, the French bank.

Shearson settles

Shearson Lehman Hutton, the US broker, and Shearson Lehman Hutton Commodities, its British arm, have settled claims against the former administrators of the London Metal Exchange over their actions after the 1985 collapse of the International Tin Council.

TOURIST RATES

	Bank Buy	Bank Sell
Australia \$	2.245	2.095
Austria Sch	2.045	2.025
Belgium Fr	62.50	61.50
Canada \$	1.98	1.98
Denmark Kr	11.18	10.48
Finland Mark	8.87	8.58
France Fr	1.47	1.47
Germany DM	2.905	2.725
Greece Dr	275.50	261.50
Hong Kong \$	13.45	13.25
Iceland Fr	1.650	1.6248
Italy Lira	2140	2010
Japan Yen	272.50	258.50
Netherlands Gld	3.25	3.07
Norway Kr	1.15	1.12
Portugal Esc	25.75	24.125
South Africa R	4.76	4.65
Spain Pta	184	172
Sweden Kr	10.55	10.35
Switzerland Fr	2.25	2.045
Turkey Lira	320	3020
USA \$	172	162
Venezuela Dlr	Refer	Refer

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays

PLC. Different rates apply to travellers cheques.

Retail Price Index 120.2 (February)

Turtles turn the tide in burger wars

From Philip Robinson
 Los Angeles

GRAND Metropolitan's Burger King restaurant chain is making millions from a new cult film breaking US box office records whose stars are four green turtles.

The film, *Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles*, features characters played by actors in green rubber suits and its merchandising is expected to generate just short of \$1 billion this year.

Burger King is expected to make at least \$25 million of that. The GrandMet subsidiary, America's largest hamburger chain after McDonald's, is offering a 22-minute video containing four episodes of the turtle superheroes for \$3.49 with any purchase of meals or fizzy drinks, for the next three weeks.

A Burger King spokesman said: "We

are selling 200,000 of these videos a day. We expect to sell seven million."

The promotion is the second part of a turtle campaign designed to transform Burger King's 5,400 fast food restaurants throughout America into a leading force in the lucrative children's meal market.

"They told us it was a million to one that we could crack this market, but we've just signed our millionth member to the Kids Club, which is free and gives the kids posters, newsletters and badges."

"Franchisees are reporting they are seeing more kids back in the restaurants than ever, our kids' meals have gone up 100 per cent on a year ago and we've just had the best January to March quarter in three years," she added.

The four turtle characters — Leonardo, Raphael, Michelangelo and Donatello —

were created in 1983 for a black and white comic book, developed into a television series, and then made into a film on which a sequel has already begun.

The turtles became human-sized heroes with supernatural powers after a radioactive waste was poured down a manhole in which they had been thrown.

Mr Mark Freedman, president of Surge Licensing which holds most of the merchandising rights to the turtles, says they are popular with children because they have an offbeat sense of humour — and parents don't understand them.

The film is expected to break more box office records this week by becoming the first to make more than \$50 million in two weeks out of the traditionally profitable summer and holiday seasons.

Out of the rubble: bright future for property market



Building up confidence: Canary Wharf, in London's Docklands, developed by Olympia & York, the leading shareholder in Rosehaugh

ALISTAIR GRANT

A WALL of money will hit the British property market over the next year from the United States pension fund industry, according to Mr John Beckwith, the chairman of London & Edinburgh Trust.

Those funds are looking to dump capital into Europe, and that LET — the perfect partner, he said — would provide the conduit to pipe the money throughout Europe.

Also in the property sector, Olympia & York, developer of Canary Wharf, has emerged as the leading shareholder in Rosehaugh, the development group headed by Mr Godfrey Bradman, with 8 per cent. Weekend reports suggested their stake to 15 per cent.

Meanwhile, Pall Mall came closer to buying control of Laing Properties and Hamerson is thought to fear a rerun of the bid from Rodamco.

This bid activity is happening when the property market is in a sharp downswing. Analysts believe companies such as LET and Rosehaugh, with extensive development programmes, are wise to welcome powerful sponsors.

Reporting this week, page 26

G7 chiefs pledge to fight yen's fall

From Rodney Lord, Economics Editor, Paris

THE world's most powerful central banks resolved at the weekend to resist an "undesirable" decline in the yen and reaffirmed their commitment to co-operate in co-ordinating economic policy.

The finance ministers and central bank governors of the Group of Seven largest industrialized economies issued a statement in Paris making clear their determination to open Japanese markets to a further decline in the Japanese currency.

The statement said: "The G7 ministers and governors noted that a good deal of progress had already been made in reducing trade imbalances. Support for the yen is designed to avoid endangering this."

The International Monetary Fund's managing director, Mr Michel Camdessus, participated in the diplomatic shorthand for the US, Canada and Britain — needed to reduce budget deficits and increase private sector savings.

Countries with external surpluses — West Germany and Japan — received the ritual exhortation to promote non-inflationary growth in domestic demand through both macro-economic and structural policies.

In addition, the world shortage of savings, to which Mr Robin Leigh-Pemberton, the Governor of the Bank of England, referred recently to the Treasury Select Committee, met with general recognition, and it was agreed that "savings should be



Major: no pressure

erto in the discussions was the need to encourage private-sector savings.

Countries with external surpluses — West Germany and Japan — received the ritual exhortation to promote non-inflationary growth in domestic demand through both macro-economic and structural policies.

He expected the German economy to grow by 3½ to 4 per cent this year with a "very favourable" prospect for 1991 as well.

The current account surplus, which was already diminishing, would fall further.

The G7 meeting began with a discussion of the proposed increase in quotas (subscriptions) to the International Monetary Fund.

Mr Major said that Britain could certainly live with the consensus of an increase in the range of 46 per cent to 51 per cent, which seems to be emerging, though we would prefer a smaller increase."

Economic view, page 25

SocGen to face action over £21m Astra buy

By Melinda Wittstock

ASTRA Holdings, the troubled munitions and pyrotechnics manufacturer whose former chief executive is at the centre of an inquiry into contractual irregularities by Ministry of Defence fraud detectives, is to sue Societe Generale de Belgique for damages relating to its ill-fated £21.5 million acquisition last September of PRB, the Belgian ammunition maker.

Astra's lawyers have yet to quantify the claim, but Mr Roy Barber, the new chairman, said Astra's former management had asked La Generale for £21 million last December.

The company, which will fall into "substantial losses" for the year to end-March, says PRB's financial position is "materially worse" than represented to the previous Astra management before it acquired the company.

The City is wary of drawing too close an analogy with the water float last autumn. But the parallel is being drawn, not least by market-makers who are concerned that institutional holders may switch from water shares to the 12 distributors or distcos, if the yield difference is too great.

Water shares were drifting off last week, with the partial package of 10 area boards losing almost £1 to 1.440p by Friday's close, as continued political uncertainty took its toll. The package is now offering a yield of 7.1 per cent, regarded as attractive by water analysts.

But the uncertainty factor means investors in the distcos, the first chunk of the power industry set to come into public hands, will require rather better than this. The long-term rate of return (initial yield plus expected dividend growth) offered to long-term investors in water shares when they were floated was about 13 per cent.

"The more unpopular the

Government poll slump may force up power yields

By Martin Waller

Government is, the greater the risk to the institutions," said Mr John Wilson, electricity analyst at UBS Phillips & Drew. "It's a very, very uncertain future, so one has to expect a return to investors of greater than 13 per cent."

The Government's own models suggest dividend growth of 4 per cent, requiring a yield on the newly-privatised distcos of 9 per cent to match water. But the greater risk would suggest double-figure yields.

This would inevitably trigger claims from the Opposition that the industry was being sold too cheaply.

"This privatization, I believe, is going to be very, very tightly priced — they aren't going to expect it to shoot to a premium on a partly-paid basis of 60 per cent," said Mr Wilson.

The decision last week to allow the two big generators, PowerGen and National Power, to drop £800 million of a planned £2 billion programme to cut sulphur dioxide emissions will also make them more attractive to the investors.

But Mr Wilson believed the Government was merely bowing to the inevitable, rather than fattening up the industry for the float.

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TEMPUS

Pall Mall opportunity knocks for shareholders in Laing Properties

LAING Properties has waged a doughty battle against the combined onslaught of Sir Jeffrey Sterling's P&O and Mr Elliott Bernard's Chelsfield. But then so did Hammerson Properties when it defeated the bid from Rodamco over a year ago. But for Hammerson's shareholders it was a Pyrrhic victory.

Hammerson's management furiously resisted the £10.17 a share bid and emerged unscathed because the bidder was not prepared to match the £10.65 a share asset valuation put on Hammerson's assets.

Having traded at 926p before the bid failed, Hammerson's A shares fell to about 800p. In the year since the dust settled, they slithered to 700p and now stand at 725p.

Holders of shares in Laing Properties will doubtless be considering this cautionary tale as they decide which way to vote before Thursday's final closing date. The P&O/Chelsfield bid via Pall Mall Properties, an off-the-shelf company, is nothing near as close to a full asset valuation as was Hammerson's.

At 725p, it stands at a 20 per cent discount compared with the 4 per cent of Rodamco's terms. Partly for this reason, Laing's followers have been suggesting that if the bid failed, the hostile potential in Pall Mall's sizeable minority holding would prevent a collapse in the price.

But times have changed. Bargain hunters in the property sector can now take their pick of shares trading at discounts to net asset value well above 40 per cent.

There is little reason to suppose that Laing shares would show a discount of less than 30 per cent, suggesting a sub-500p price against today's 690p. Such considerations may have weighed heavily in Standard Life decision to part with its Laing shares at an early stage. In portfolio terms, it paid a painful price for sticking with Hammerson.

On Friday, there were signs of defection among even Laing's closest shareholders. Two of the family trusts, together accounting for 5 per cent of the shares, decided to sell half to Pall Mall. Their decision will make it more difficult for the other family trustees to resist at least a partial sale.

Waiving Laing investors should accept Pall Mall's terms. The cash offer may be at a significant discount but it



is actually at a small premium to the 910p asset value less 207p a share gains tax liability.

The bid presents too good an opportunity to take cash and reinvest the proceeds at far better value than Laing shares offer. There are signs that the property sector may be near the bottom of the present interest rate cycle.

Land Securities and MPEC, selling on 40 per cent plus discounts, are both safe and when interest rates begin to subside, highly profitable too.

Argos

Few chief executives taking their company to the stock market would venture the opinion that the shares had opened a little on the high side. But Dr Mike Smith, of Argos, is not an average chief executive. And unlike many directors of companies making a stock market debut, he is not set to make a killing on his modest 5,470 shares.

Argos shares opened at 204p on Friday and closed at 202p, valuing the group at about £600 million. This makes it one of Britain's six biggest retail groups.

Assuming the group makes pre-tax profits of £71 million this year, the shares are trading on a p/e ratio of 13.1, which is akin to the rating of Marks and Spencer, Britain's biggest and best-loved retailer.

Argos, in line with M&S, is one of the few unbroken growth stories in the retail sector and is seen as the best alternative defensive stock to M&S. But, while it does deserve a premium rating to the rest of the sector, it does not deserve to be at a premium to M&S. Argos is a more seasonally-biased business than M&S and has less ability to squeeze suppliers.

But Argos certainly lives up to its Greek name and shines



Winning the battle: Sir Jeffrey Sterling, of P&O, a partner in the bid for Laing

in comparison to most other retail groups. Its strong management team, low cost ratios, unearthing balance sheet and high market share in key product areas are the envy of struggling retailers.

The shares are likely to drift downwards in the next few weeks as small shareholders take advantage of the free dealing service to sell their holdings of 500 shares or less.

Takeover speculation could fuel the shares but while there are retailers who would love to buy Argos, few can afford to do so. Fewer still can argue that they could run the business better than it is at present. Shareholders should not ex-

pect much improvement in the shares in the short term but in the longer term they are likely to be well rewarded.

Trusts

The investment trust industry's drive to find capital structures which will avoid shares trading at a discount to their underlying portfolio has produced some ingenious financial engineering.

Mr Ian Henderson, an experienced institutional investment manager who specializes in one of the variants, has introduced a new level of sophistication through his latest launch, Dartmoor

Investment Trust. It is essentially a split-level trust investing in other split-level trusts.

There are two types of split-level trust. The first, dual-capital version has income shares, which basically take all the dividends from the underlying portfolio, and capital shares, which take the capital growth.

A new generation adopts a different split. Typically they have zero coupon preference shares which are guaranteed a high fixed return to maturity, and ordinary shares, which have a high initial income (thanks to the zero coupon preference) but which also gain the residual capital

growth. This makes them potentially more attractive than the old income shares.

Dartmoor is essentially a shared-equity type trust investing mainly in the income and high income ordinary shares of split level trusts. An additional sophistication is that it is split between £20 million ordinary shares and £16 million of 6 per cent index-linked debentures – already placed – whose income and capital rise in line with inflation.

To help meet the capital growth needed for index-linking, 15 per cent of the portfolio will be invested in capital shares and up to 15 per cent of the trust's income will be retained.

Even so, the ordinary shares stand to have an initial dividend yield of 13 per cent, about 2 or 3 per cent higher than conventional dual-capital income shares. Income should grow well if company dividends continue to outpace inflation. If underlying share prices do so too, they can achieve strong capital growth.

The necessary snag is that the ordinary shares bear a variety of risks. There is an element of double gearing since one trust is investing in others.

The ordinary shares also bear the risk of inflation, which could gear real net asset value down sharply if share prices lag inflation over a long period. There is a smaller risk to income or income growth.

The trouble is that the investor who wants high income, such as a retired person with limited capital, does not want risk. One basically friendly critic suggests that Mr Henderson has invented a Sinclair CS investment vehicle – a brilliant concept that will appeal to no one. More fairly, the market is limited to groups wanting high income but who can afford risk.

Mr Henderson and Craig Middleton, broker to the issue, have identified and targeted just such a group – non-working spouses in affluent households who can take advantage of separate taxation.

A 13 per cent yield with potentially good capital growth will certainly look attractive when interest rates fall. For most people though, trusts such as Dartmoor should be held only as part of a diversified portfolio. Subscription is open until April 23.

Edited by John Bell

BRUSSELS VIEWPOINT

Europe warns US and Japan over open market deal

IN RESPONSE to fears that European businesses may lose out to American competitors, the European Commission is expected to warn the US and Japan that their new deal to open up the Japanese market must not exclude Japan's other trading partners.

Giving the Commission's initial reaction to the Structural Impediments Initiative agreed by the US and Japan on April 5, an EC spokesman said: "We insist the potential results be applied multilaterally, not just to the United States."

Washington has extracted a promise from Tokyo to ease curbs on building supermarkets, spend more on public works and prise open its network of cosy business relationships with tougher anti-trust rules.

Brussels would like such measures tackled under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), rather than unilaterally, but it respects that Japan's trade surplus with the US (\$45 billion) is far greater than with the EC (\$20 billion).

MOVES are afoot to create a standard telephone card for public kiosks throughout the EC. The Commission has asked two bodies of standards experts to find ways of making cards comparable.

It is unclear whether British Telecom and the EC's other PTTs would be obliged or merely encouraged to adapt to new norms once they had been devised.

AFTER a first look at Sabena World Airways, the joint venture between British Airways, Sabena and KLM, the Commission suspects that the link-up may be in breach of EC competition rules, and has asked competitors to submit any further complaints by April 30.

The Commission's inquiry – which has no bearing on the current investigation by the Monopolies and Mergers Commission – must be concluded by June 30.

The three airlines want exemption from EC rules,

arguing that by creating Sabena World Airways they are merely stepping out on a path prepared by the EC's new air deregulation policy.

Economic benefits outweigh the threat to free competition, they argue, in that the venture will increase traffic to as many as 75 European towns, will create 4,000 jobs in towns newly served by flights from the Brussels hub and will boost transport infrastructure in Northern Europe.

● AIRLINES have attacked new EC measures designed to compensate the victims of overbooking.

The Association of European Airlines believes that Brussels' plans are "economically unbearable," arguing that they would force carriers to pay out crippling sums in compensation whose journey is delayed by overbooking.

The AEA fears that airlines carrying a passenger a short distance before he connects with a long-haul flight could have to pay a portion of the entire sum if he misses his connection as a result of overbooking.

● NATIONAL experts who are chiselling into shape the EC's plans for a single market in investment services have agreed that an investment house should be free to operate on any European securities market, but no uniform model should be imposed. An initial reading of the EC's proposal will be concluded by July.

There is optimism that a single investment services market would be ready by the end of 1992.

Parallel rules establishing the capital adequacy of investment houses threaten to hold it back, however.

The Commission is due to unveil these by the end of April, but serious delays could follow, not least because the EC is trading entirely new ground, with few world standards by which to set its own.

Peter Guillford
Brussels

East bloc 'to outstrip America in EC trade'

By Colin Narbrough, Economics Correspondent

EASTERN Europe's switch from Communism to capitalism means it could overtake North America as a market for exports from the European Community by the end of the century, says a report by four leading economic research institutes.

Produced jointly by Cambridge Econometrics, BIPE of Paris, Promofit of Bologna and IFO-Institut of Munich, the findings are based on a model predicting trade flows to eight Eastern European economies.

The report charts two likely scenarios for the region. One, the more pessimistic "valley of tears," expects Eastern Europe to be burdened by huge trade deficits with the West in 25 years; the second, called "early take-off," foresees the trade gap closed by that time.

Under the first scenario, EC exports to the region will be growing at an annual rate of 5.6 per cent in 1995 and 9.8 per cent in 2000, and be worth \$53 billion and \$84 billion respectively.

The more favourable alternative anticipates EC exports growing at 10.4 per cent in that time.

Given the time needed by Western economies, such as Britain, to adjust when reducing trade barriers, the Eastern Europeans are not expected to reach their "import potential" until early next century.

The "valley of tears" scenario assumes the short-

comings in the structure that Eastern Europe has inherited are huge and that political struggles will continue, implying frictions and depressed economic activity. This would delay take-off until late in the decade and is regarded as more probable, especially if the Soviet Union runs into severe transitory political problems.

The brighter option assumes quick and credible legislation to foster economic activity and a high propensity among Western firms to enter Eastern Europe.

The report touches upon the possibility of bleak "no future" feelings in Eastern Europe, if the region's problems appear insurmountable after some time, with a wave of migration to Western Europe as a consequence.

Europe in 1994, available from Cambridge Econometrics, 21 St Andrew's St, Cambridge CB2 3AX (£750).

● New Zealand has struck deals, mostly in agricultural technology, worth NZ\$9.6 million (£3.4 million) with Poland, East Germany, Czechoslovakia and Hungary.

Rank Organisation has an

Theme park still awaits a decision

By Martin Waller

A FINAL decision on whether to build a £2.5 billion Hollywood-on-Thames theme park on the Essex marshes will not be taken for two or three months, says MCA, the US studio planning the project.

This is despite the Government's decision last week to wave the scheme through without a planning inquiry.

MCA is still holding out the possibility that it may decide to relocate to France, despite the competition from the giant Disney theme park being built outside Paris, if its negotiations with landowners, transport authorities and sources of finance are unsuccessful.

The Hollywood theme park, which has Mr Steven Spielberg, the film producer, as consultant, will feature attractions from MCA's biggest films such as *ET*, *Jaws* and *King Kong*. Mr Chris Patten, the Environment Secretary, last week said it would not need a public inquiry, despite objections from environmentalists, although the developers have had to make concessions to the green lobby.

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Mr Keith Williams, managing director of D & B, said: "Fears of a recession appear to be obviously easing. The improved level of optimism over the previous quarter of 1990 may be attributable to the clearer outlook for the UK economy."

He said interest rates were still high but did not look like going much higher. Sterling was showing some stability and the trade gap was narrowing.

The survey points to the weak pound having a beneficial effect on exports, particularly in manufacturing, with the best opportunities reported in durable goods, such as cars and televisions.

The survey findings are not all favourable. The index for selling prices is up in most industrial sectors and by eight points overall, suggesting that inflation is likely to increase over the next three months. Employment prospects in manufacturing appear gloomy, but the outlook for jobs in construction is brighter.

Recommended: *Goldstrike* published by Hutchinson Business Books, £15.95.

GILT-EDGED

Inflation trend leaves market looking fragile

Will the Prime Minister allow the Chancellor to continue with his bid for the EMS or will he take him out like his predecessor... into a different sun? The gilt market's intense interest in this question is only natural in view of the number of trump cards the Government would hold in the EMS.

But the Budget leaves nagging doubts about fiscal policy and the Government's ability to play those cards safely. The PSDR, swollen by asset sales, gives the impression that fiscal policy is tight. Yet the public sector's financial surplus, which shows its net withdrawal of cash from the flow of income and expenditure will be retained.

Even so, the ordinary shares stand to have an initial dividend yield of 13 per cent, about 2 or 3 per cent higher than conventional dual-capital income shares. Income should grow well if company dividends continue to outpace inflation. If underlying share prices do so too, they can achieve strong capital growth.

The necessary snag is that the ordinary shares bear a variety of risks. There is an element of double gearing since one trust is investing in others.

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Edited by John Bell

in the financial accounts would require both high interest rates and a tighter fiscal policy.

This sort of analysis would become rather academic if sterling were successfully to join the ERM. Because, then, the risk premium on sterling would erode, eventually bringing British interest rates into line with those in other European financial centres.

That would play havoc with the sectoral balances and the Government would have to rely on fiscal policy to deal with the private sector deficit and other structural problems. Consequently, most studies of the EMS option conclude that a tighter fiscal policy would help short-term sterling into the ERM.

It still seems surprising, therefore, that the Chancellor did not take the proverbial first step towards the ERM by tightening up the fiscal side in the Budget.

He was presumably advised that existing policies would be enough to cool the economy and slow the wage price spiral so it would be safe to join. This judgement could still be vindicated, but leaves little margin for error, making the EMS scenario and gilt market hostage to Government's inflation fortunes.

<p

Demerged BAT papermaker expected to have £1.5bn price tag

By Derek Harris
Industrial Editor

WIGGINS Teape Appleton (WTA) has been formally created from two separate elements in BAT Industries ready for its June 1 Stock Exchange listing.

Mr Stephen Walls, WTA's chairman and chief executive, said: "The merger has just been completed which means the first phase is essentially in place. We are now a long way down the road to the demerger from BAT."

Listing particulars are due on May 10 and BAT meetings are scheduled for May 31. To achieve the demerger there will be an issue of free shares to BAT holders.

The demerger follows last week's flotation of the Argos catalogue showroom subsidiary of BAT. BAT is close to finalizing a shortlist of interested buyers of the Saks and Marshall Field's stores in the US with a definitive announcement expected next month.

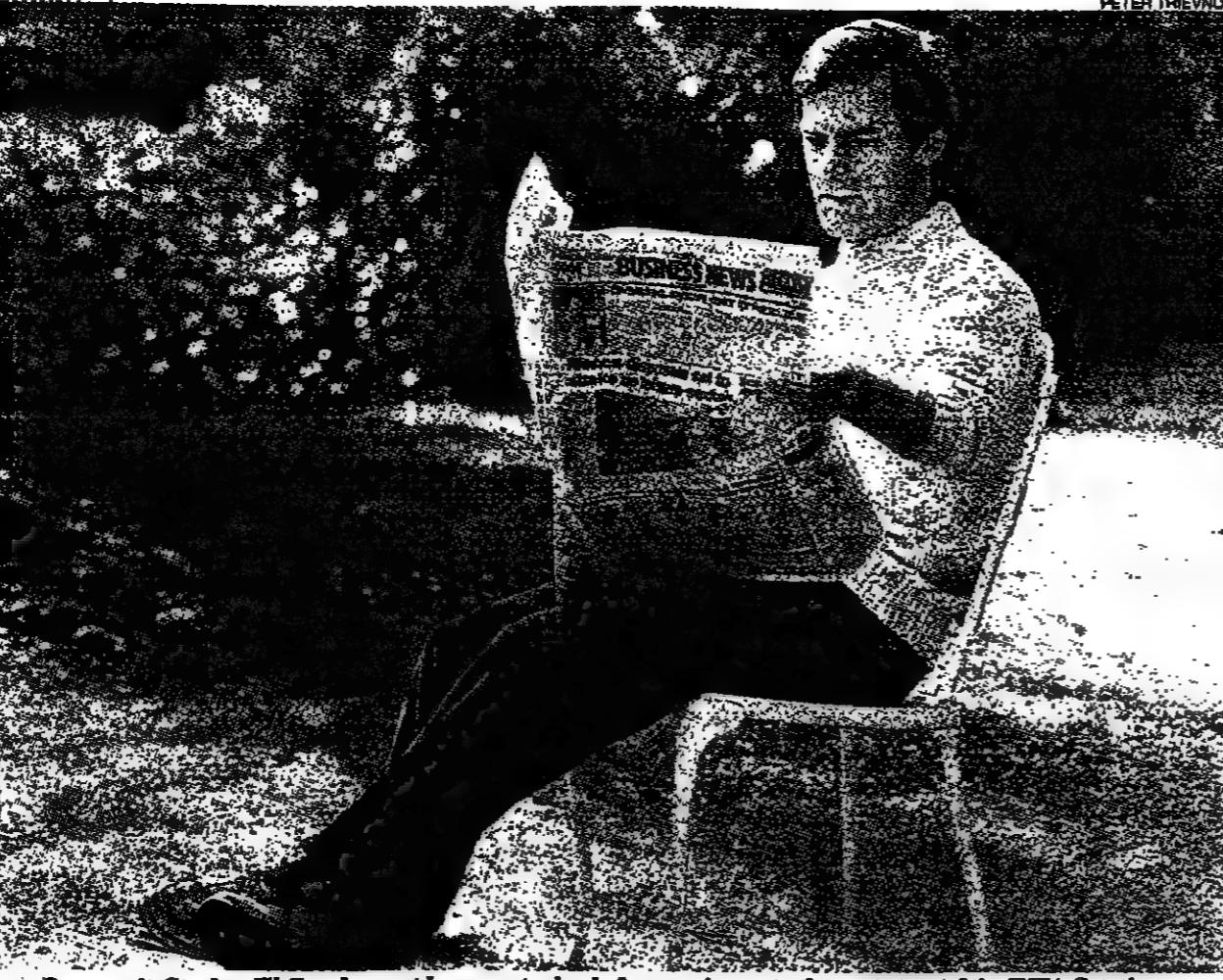
WTA, which will be the largest British-owned paper company and fourth largest in Europe, is likely to have a price tag above £1.5 million. It should be in the FT-SE 100.

A small headquarters operation for the new company will be established in central London and Mr Walls is hunting for offices. The Wiggins Teape operational headquarters will remain in Basingstoke, Hampshire.

Appleton in the US and Wiggins Teape in Europe are both operating mainly in the high value-added paper business. WTA will be the world's largest maker of carbonless paper and Europe's leading producer of thermal papers.

This paper is typically used for fax machines and sector sales have been growing by more than 3 per cent a year.

Although both Appleton and Wiggins Teape are big,



Paper wait: Stephen Walls relaxes at home yesterday before moving on to the next stage of the WTA flotation

especially in carbonless paper, they operate in distinct marketplaces so the closer co-operation from welding the two together will be in research and development, production technology and export markets outside North America and Europe.

Mr Walls, who was managing director of Plessey before its takeover by the General Electric Company and Siemens, feels it is necessary to get home the message that although WTA is in paper,

which is a cyclical industry, its involvement in high-value, high-sales areas, gives it a special character. He has just hosted 15 meetings with City institutions from which there was, he said, "some good feed-back."

He is well aware that WTA could be a tempting takeover target, and plans, in this order of priority, to pursue better organic growth from existing businesses, capitalize on synergies arising from the merged WTA and then "look on a selective basis at the possibility of using acquisitions to extend organic growth."

• California state insurance regulators are due to make the first crucial US decision over Sir James' Goldsmith's £13.4 billion takeover of BAT Industries.

Nine months after his first bid was launched for the tobacco and financial group which owns Farmers, the California insurer, officials will rule on whether Sir James' Hoylake or the

French group Axa Midi Assurances would be fit and proper owners of Farmers. Officials have taken evidence from both Hoylake and the French financial company, which intends to buy Farmers for \$4.5 billion, should Sir James' bid go through.

There was increasing speculation over the weekend that the decision, which is expected to be handed down in a 50-page document in San Francisco today, is likely to be split.

Norton wins time in BTR bid battle

From John Durkin, New York

NORTON Company, the Massachusetts heavy equipment producer, is pinning its survival chances largely on two separate legal events this week.

The company has rejected a \$1.6 billion takeover bid from BTR. The offer expires this Thursday, but the British company can extend it, and, in interviews with the Boston press last week, Mr John Cahill, the company's chief executive, showed no signs of big.

He even raised the prospect of a higher bid should the Norton board become more co-operative. At \$75 a share the offer is below most analysts' estimates of an \$80 share value for the company.

The Norton board has made clear that it hopes to find a white knight, and is examining a plan whereby an outside party and the company's employees would buy 35 per cent of the issued shares in the company.

Meanwhile, it hopes to delay the bid, pending legal developments in Massachusetts. Today, the State of Massachusetts Legislature will hold hearings on its planned legislation to prevent a company's board being overruled at a single agm. The

Aquascutum may give A shares vote

By Melinda Wittstock

AQUASCUTUM, the British classic clothing company, may consider enfranchising holders of its non-voting A shares before its expected showdown with rebel investors at its annual meeting in June.

But Mr Gerald Abrahams, the chairman, said the group will not discuss any courses of action until its final results are published in two weeks and the board has had its first meeting with Mr Philip Birch, former chairman of Ward White, and Sir Peter Carey, former chairman of Morgan Grenfell, the two new non-executive directors.

Mr Gordon Getty, one of the world's richest men, is behind the rebel investors threatening to liquidate the

company if the controlling Abrahams family rejects demands for enfranchisement and two seats on the board. Waterfall, the consortium led by Mr Brian Myerson, a South African businessman, speaks for 27.2 per cent of the non-voting shares and claims it has backing of 14 large shareholders. "Between us we control over 75 per cent of the equity — enough to wind it up," he said. Talks between Aquascutum and Waterfall over creation of a single class of shares broke down after failure to agree compensation for holders of voting shares.

Mr Abrahams, whose family controls about 60 per cent of the voting shares, said: "I have no views on the question of enfranchisement, other than to say that it would have nothing to do with making the company more successful. But we'll listen to all views."

He added Waterfall is interested in Aquascutum only as "a money-making exercise" that would "destroy the company shares". If liquidated, all shares in Aquascutum would be treated equally, allowing Waterfall to realize more than its £40 million capitalization by closing it and selling its assets, including the valuable brand name.

off Bonn's invasion of his model independence, his colleagues in other centres are coming out of the government closet. Dr Pangloss and in cultivating his garden — it has agreed the first-ever sponsorship by any company of one of the Royal Horticultural Society's monthly flower shows. The decision to sponsor the late April show at the Society's premises in Vincent Square,

customary "Delphic code," was again in evidence in his recent remarks at Durham Castle. But do not imagine the Governor of the Bank of England is alone in seeking a more independent central bank as monetary union looms ever larger in Europe. While Karl Otto Föhl at the Bundesbank is busy warding

• Mr Leigh-Pemberton admitted Government policy errors in its economic affairs at Durham Castle. But my spies suggest difficult economic times may even be taking their toll on the Governor's own affairs. He submitted some sheep from his Kent farm to Ashford market last week, to a disappointing response. The average price was £25-£30 a head, against the £36-£40 he could have expected.

• The Internal Revenue in the US has caught up with another miscreant and penalized tax-payer George Wittemeyer \$159.78 for underpayment of tax. His crime? When he sent his return and cheque it was short — by one cent.

Martin Waller

Wealth of Smith

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Witan Trust goes green

AS THE 200th anniversary of the death of Adam Smith, the father of political economics, comes round, the squabbling has started. At least two conferences are planned to mark the occasion this summer. World Business Forum — backed by Scottish Financial Enterprise and the Scottish Development Agency — fields Malcolm Rifkind, Secretary of State for Scotland, who delivers an encyclopaedia for its Wealth of Nations 1990 World Business Conference starting on June 27. In keeping with the spirit of the times, it has also managed to find a real live member of the Soviet Politburo and an expert on terrorism. The Institute of Economic Affairs is promoting the Adam Smith Bicentenary Conference on July 16 and 17 and is promising "several of the world's leading Nobel Laureates" and capping the proceedings with a ceremony at the Scottish economist's grave. The Adam Smith Institute, the free market think tank, stole a march on the others by starting its own celebrations last year and is including a fund-raising appeal and a dinner to be addressed by Nicholas Ridley on July 17, marking the actual date of Adam Smith's death. Not to be outdone, it is considering its own conference.

Robin restless

Robin Leigh-Pemberton's readiness to make his gubernatorial utterances "clear" rather than in the Old Lady's



"My horse took such a tumble they renamed it Lowdles Queenaway."

Ball with a view

GREG Hutchings, the chief executive of the building to engineering group PH Tomkins, when not taking his company to yet new heights, can apparently be found hurtling round a hockey pitch in the red and white shirt of Richmond Hockey Club. And that particular London club is, it seems, something of a favoured haunt for other City worthies. For while Hutchings is guaranteed a fairly regular place in the first team, the lesser ranks comprise such notables as Michael Jackson, a director of Guidehouse, Nick Hilton, a partner at accountancy firm Moore Stephens and Peter Truman, former finance director of BMP, the advertising agency. And on the evening of July 28 they will all be thrown together once again, with other hockey players, at Hurlingham, for the Hockey Ball, organized by the Friends of Richmond Hockey Club.

But before it can get off the ground, stockbroker Max Bascombe, aged 31 — an ex-Citicorp Scrumgeur Vickers European equity salesman, now looking to move into mergers and acquisitions — is trying to find a sponsor for the event, so that they can raise sufficient funds to pay for their coach to work with children in the Richmond area. "We're looking for someone prepared to stump up about £5,000," says Bascombe. "Since most of the people are aged between 22 and 35, it will be a good venue for cigarette or drinks companies."

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ECONOMIC VIEW

A temporary delay on the yen's sunset

The Group of Seven has moved as far as could have been expected in supporting the yen. By delicately threatening the wrath of the main central banks if the Japanese currency continues to behave like the setting sun, it may have succeeded, at least temporarily, in scaring an already nervous market into propping up the yen at about its present level.

No doubt this has something to do with last week's progress on the so-called Strategic Impediments Initiative — the latest attempt by the US to open Japanese markets to overseas competition. From the Japanese point of view, there is something odd about seeking help in making Japan less competitive as a *quid pro quo* for opening up Japanese import markets. Still, with inflation rising, the Bank of Japan, if not the government, will be glad of some help in stabilizing its fading currency.

The BoJ's worry is if interest rates go up again, the massive swings on the Tokyo stock market could turn into the fundamental reassessment of Japanese stock values which doomsiders have been warning about.

The question is: how long will jaw, jaw stave off renewed war, war in the foreign exchange markets? In the relatively short history of currency coordination, there have been two types of intervention by the G7. The process began with the Plaza meeting in September 1985 at which ministers agreed that a particular currency — the dollar — was out of line with economic fundamentals. With the Louvre accord in February 1987, this developed into a commitment to exchange-rate stability in general as opposed to corrective movement in particular.

The G7 has since reverted to the earlier form of intervention with the attempt last September to cap the dollar.

The message on the yen is the same. But is the yen fundamentally undervalued? Inflation is rising in Japan and interest rates are still well below international levels.

According to DKB International, Japan's wholesale price figures for March, to be released on Friday, will show a rise in the year-on-year inflation rate from 3.5 per cent to 3.7 per cent. This may be satisfactory compared with about 5 per cent in Britain but compares with a rate of minus 1 per cent in Japan in the third quarter of 1988.

Apart from the danger to the Tokyo bourse, the difficulty of finding a solution in interest rates lies also with the internal politics of the countries involved. The BoJ has been concerned at rising inflation for months and argued for a much earlier rise in rates, but party politics intervened.

A less damaging split is also evident in the US where most of the Federal Reserve Board is determined not to cut

interest rates, while the Administration is less concerned about inflation and more about jobs. While the Fed would probably favour a further rise in Japanese rates, President Bush and the Treasury Secretary Nicholas Brady are more prepared to go the route of intervention.

There is an even more glaring example of the split between government and central banks in West Germany. There the central bank has got the finance and economics ministers on its side but failed to carry the rest of the Cabinet.

When the German finance minister Herr Theo Waigel briefed his G7 colleagues on Saturday on the latest developments on economic and monetary union in Germany, his colleagues must have wondered how far he spoke for the government.

It is clear that a battle royal has developed within West Germany over the terms for converting East German marks into Deutsche marks. The Bundesbank is relaunching its offensive, but if the German Chancellor Herr Helmut Kohl is determined to defend his position of converting the two currencies one-for-one, it is difficult to see how he can be dislodged.

As our own Chancellor, John Major, remarked to the Treasury Select Committee last week, the Bundesbank's record on countering inflation is impressive. But if it is one-for-one, the odds against increased German interest rates will shorten.

The spectacle of central banks at odds with government in each of the three biggest G7 countries underlines again the tensions monetary affairs impose on policymakers. As Mr Major said in the same session with the Treasury Committee, it is the policies rather than the institution administering them which are important. But was rather odd of him with one breath to praise the Bundesbank's record and, with the next, to deny any merit in greater independence for the Bank of England. It is, after all, not only the policies being pursued but also the likelihood of their continuing to be pursued which is important and which financial markets take into account.

As I argued in this column a few weeks ago, there is much to be said for a more independent Bank of England. The intermediate step is for the Bank to take a more distinctive view of policy in public. This is exactly what has happened in the past few weeks. The Governor's own evidence to the select committee was a good deal more enlightening than the Chancellor's, and last week he took the process a stage further in his speech in Durham anatomizing the policy failures of the past two years. The policy-making environment is likely to be healthier for a more open discussion.

Rodney Lord
Economics Editor, Paris

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START LOW

REPORTING THIS WEEK

Building sector under the spotlight

IN A week when several companies in the building and contracting industries report a few stand out. One is Taylor Woodrow, the property and construction group headed by Mr Peter Drew, the new chairman, and Mr Horace Palmer, the chief executive, which reports tomorrow.

It is conservative and well managed, but will not have been able to buck the trend in British housing. However, a strong showing from commercial property and the overseas housebuilding operations will ensure a sturdy performance. Contracting and construction is expected to have done well.

Mr Mark Stockdale at Barclays de Zoete Wedd has pencilled in annual pre-tax profits of £118 million, compared with £103.3 million. Market forecasts range from £112 million to £130 million.

TODAY

Flemings Research expects Ibstock Johnsons, the brick and pulp maker, to report final pre-tax profits of £60 million, against £56.3 million, with forecasts ranging from £55 million to £63 million. However, profits are expected to deteriorate this year, with a potential downturn in both bricks and pulp.

Morgan Crucible, the industrial materials-to-electronics group, should see benefits from the carbon and thermal ceramics division, partly as a result of acquisitions and partly from improved efficiency. County NatWest WoodMac forecasts a 25 per cent increase in final taxable profits to £55 million.

Full-year pre-tax profits are expected to fall from £59.5 million to £55 million at John Mowlem, the property company and contractor, according to Mr Angus Phaire at County NatWest. The estimate includes a £33 million provision to offset development costs and trading losses at City Airport in London's Docklands.

INTERIM: Highland Distilleries, Finsbury Acid, Property Holdings, Eddie Goss Technology, GEC (U) & Sons, Black (A&C), Dewhurst Group, Forum & Mason, Helene, Ibstock Johnsons, ISA International, Lamont Holdings, Micro Focus Group, Morgan Crucible, Mowlem (John), Morris Holdings, Puerto Rico, Phillips, GKN, Plessey, Scottish Television, Severn Trent, Scottish Revere, United Friendly Insurance, Whitington.

Economic statistics: UK producer price index (March).

TOMORROW

Analysts expect Foseco, the specialist chemicals and abrasives business, to announce annual pre-tax profits of about £47 million, against £43.1 million, after a mixed second-half performance. Forecasts range from £43 million to £49 million.



Fashion note: most analysts are expecting David Jones, chief executive of Next, to announce a dividend cut

Second-half trading at Next, the struggling fashion retailer headed by Mr David Jones, is thought to have remained difficult. The main concern will be whether Next can maintain its dividend, with most analysts expecting a cut.

The Next high street chain, in its slumped-down form, should be in much better

shape to withstand difficult trading. However, the Grattan mail order and home shopping businesses have been a problem area, although home shopping should show a recovery after the 1988 postal strike. Next is expected to report pre-tax profits of about £30 million.

However, this figure is be-

fore exceptional deductions of between £50 million and £55 million, covering the costs of the new warehouse, and redundancy and closure costs.

This will result in a pre-tax loss of about £25 million for the year.

BZW expects pre-tax profits at RMC Group, the world's biggest producer of ready

mixed concrete, to rise from £205.9 million to £245 million.

The group, which is one of the foremost integrated aggregate producers in Europe, will benefit from strong volumes and an overseas exposure of more than 40 per cent, with a healthy contribution from its German operations.

INTERIM: Dowding & Mills, Lloyds Chemists, Skinnerton Holdings, Wardle Stores, WCHS.

Final: Alexander Workwear, Bossey & Hawkes, Britannia Security Group, Celsion Industries, Denham Motors Group, Davis (Dreyfus), Durham (DG), Erid, FGD Holdings, Gower (Gower), Hartter, Marin (Albert), Next, RMC Group, Savoy Hotel, Seaford, Sherwood Computer Services, Stylo, Taylor Woodrow, TIVS, Entertainment, Ware Group.

WEDNESDAY

The depressed state of British housing will hit Castain, the construction and property group, although all divisions have had their problems. The first half was ahead despite a fall in results from British housing, but full-year profits are expected to drop to about £70 million (£89 million).

MR Group, the former Metal Box company, has been transformed and now includes Canadian, the Twyford bathrooms-to-Maria showers group, after last October's £3.38 million agreed bid. UBS Phillips & Drew is looking for pre-tax profits of about £84 million for the nine-month period, against £95 million for the previous year.

Suffit Industries, the aerospace, medical systems and industrial products group, will have been affected by the strikes in the aerospace sector, although British medical sales are thought to have been strong.

Smith New Court expects interim pre-tax profits to climb from £47.1 million to £49 million, with the majority of forecast ranging from £48 million to £52 million.

Full-year pre-tax profits at Tesco are expected to climb from £265 million to £225 million, according to Mr Andrew Hughes at Nomura Research. This does not include property profits, which some analysts estimate at about £35 million.

Market forecasts, including property profits, range from £350 million to £360 million.

INTERIM: Smith Industries.

Final: Amec, Amer Group, Barr & Wallace, Arnold Trust, Bentall,

Brixton Estate, Cannon Street Investments, Caparo Industries, Concorde, Cossor Group, DHL, Els Group, Nundin & Peacock, Parcimé, Proudfoot (Alexander), Simek (William), Systems Reliability Holdings, Teaco, The Rock, Tudor, Warwick Foods.

Economic statistics: Bank advances (£bn); bank and quarterly analysis of bank advances (£bn).

THURSDAY

INTERIM: New Central Midwinter and Areas, TR Far East Income Trust, VTR.

Final: American Investment Trust, Chelstow Racemakers, Epson Exploration, FEG Pacific Investment Trust, Malaya Group, Musgrave Group, Toys & Co.

Economic statistics: UK retail price index (March); latest market statistics.

Philip Pangalos

US NOTEBOOK

Plunge in bank stocks points to US decline

From Maxwell Newton, New York

The debacle in American bank stocks has continued and intensified since I wrote about this subject two weeks ago. On Thursday, Mr George Salem, bank analyst at Prudential Bache, put a "sell" signal on 15 of the 23 bank stocks he follows. At the same time he issued a "sell" on Bank of New York, Chase Manhattan and PNC Financial.

PNC Financial announced a drop of 35-40 per cent in its first quarter net on Friday. Midland also announced loan loss provisions so big they wiped out the firm's first-quarter profit.

By now most major banks in America are selling at their 52-week lows — and the lows are falling.

The bank stocks are telling more clearly than almost any other economic or financial indicator that conditions in American business and finance are bad and getting worse.

Among the problems confronting the banks are:

- Big falls in property values that are exposing banks to heavy losses and provisions.
- Regulators are obliging them to acknowledge these property value losses.

- Their cost of funds remains high, due to the worldwide pressure on cash, reflected in the huge escalation of short-term interest rates in the Euro deposit market in the past two years.

- Management are becoming ever more fearful of lending to people or to corporations as the rate of corporate bankruptcies has boomed. Bankruptcy filings rose more than one-third between the third and fourth quarters last year and are still very vigorous.

- Big losses on their bond portfolios, closing off one

DEBACLE IN US BANK STOCKS

	52 week high	52 week low	Latest % high	Latest % low
Bank of New England	24	21	37%	16%
Bank of New York	55	31	55%	31%
Bank of America	36	21	72%	52%
Bankers Trust	58	36	62%	36%
Bank of Boston	30	12	40%	12%
Barnett Banks	40	28	70%	50%
Chemical Bank	41	23	56%	33%
Citibank	35	22	63%	33%
Citizens & Southern	36	22	58%	33%
Continental Bank	26	13	50%	23%
First Chicago	49	23	59%	23%
First Interstate	70	32	46%	32%
Fleet National	31	20	55%	33%
Hancock	44	28	58%	33%
J.P. Morgan	43	34	75%	55%
NBC	55	33	52%	33%
Security Pacific	55	35	54%	34%
Wells Fargo	64	68	78%	78%

Interest rates may ease in Australia

Sydney
COMMERCIAL and housing interest rates in Australia could fall more before the Reserve Bank again eases monetary policy, Mr Paul Keating, Treasurer, said.

Bank overdraft rates, already down to about 18.5 per cent, should soon be near 18 per cent, and lower home-loan rates were expected after last week's fall of between 0.5 per cent and 0.75 per cent.

The Reserve Bank said on Wednesday it would reduce cash rates about one percentage point.

THE TIMES STOCK WATCH

- Stockwatch gives access to more than 13,000 share, unit trust and bond prices on these numbers:
- Stock market comment: general market 0898 121220; company news 0898 121221; active shares 0898 121225.
- Calls cost 38p and 25p per minute, inc. VAT.



This washing machine was made with pre-painted British Steel.
The rest will be here when they're dry.

From start to finish, it takes about four hours to make a washing machine.

Two of which are spent painting the steel — and then waiting for it to dry.

This is frustrating for the manufacturer, to say the least. Because all the time his machine is in the paintshop, someone else's is in the shop window.

To a lateral thinker, the solution is obvious: get the steelmaker to paint the steel before he delivers it.

To the steelmaker, it isn't quite that simple.

Because the painted finish now has to survive the entire manufacturing process — and still look as if it hasn't been anywhere near it.

Happily, British Steel had been through that particular hoop before.

We already had a pre-painted steel, developed to save time in the construction industry.

We knew it was resilient, and resistant to extremes of weather. (You'll find Colorcoat® cladding on buildings all over Europe, America, Asia and Africa.)

Could it now stand the high-speed piercing, pressing and 180 degree bending which go into making a washing machine?

With help from a leading British paint supplier, we soon had the answer.

The results were spectacular.

Down-time went down. Manufacturing costs went down (by 14 per cent in some cases). And sales of Colorcoat went up and up.

Partly due to white goods. And partly due to brown goods:

Colorcoat is a Registered Trade Mark of British Steel.

TV's, videos, hi-fi units and microwaves. (Not to mention car components, office furniture, scientific equipment and satellite dishes.)

In fact, Colorcoat in all its forms has been so successful that production is currently well over 2,000 per cent up on its first year level.

That isn't really the point of the story, though.

It is our strategy to take problems out of our customers' factories, whenever we can, and solve them ourselves.

Either in our laboratories, or our steelworks (or both).

To build the answer into the steel itself. And then build new markets with the resulting product.

Colorcoat is a striking example of the principle. But it's far from being the only one.

We've developed stronger steels for lighter cars — and lower fuel consumption.

Sound-deadened steels to improve working conditions for machine operators.

Non-slip steel plate for safer walkways in factories and on oil-rigs.

And recyclable steel cans for the drinks industry (and the environment).

As the world steel market gets tougher, it is added-value steels like these which are strengthening our position in it.

Success lies in solving problems fast.

And, like the washing machine above, getting there first.

WE'RE ADDING VALUE.
AT BRITISH STEEL.



Portfolio

PLATINUM

From your Portfolio Platinum card check your eight share price movements on this page only. Add them up to give you your overall total and check this against the daily dividend figure. If it matches you have won one of a share of the daily prize money stated on the back of your card. Always have your card available when claiming. Game rules appear on the back of your card.

STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

Capitalization and change on week

(Current market price multiplied by the number of shares in issue for the stock quoted)
ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings begin today. Dealings end April 27. Contango day April 30. Settlement day May 8.
Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days.

Prices are Friday's middle prices. Change, dividend, yield and P/E ratios are calculated on middle prices. (aa) denotes Alpha Stocks.

No.	Company	Group	Capita-	Price	Div	Gross	De-	Div	Capita-	Price	Div	Gross	De-	Div	Capita-	Price	Div	Gross	De-	Capita-	Price	Div	Gross	De-	Div	
			tion	per	per	per	per	per	tion	per	per	per	per	per	tion	per	per	per	per	per	per	per	per	per		
1	Nat Am Bk	Banks, Discount	£1,000,000	192	-	16.3	5.3	7.1	2,951,100 Midland (ad)	528	+1.5	24.0	7.1	-	2,916,000 Clydesdale	81	+3	A.1	32.0	11.3	2,951,100 Midland (ad)	528	+1.5	24.0	7.1	-
2	Fisons (m)	Industrials E-K	1,000,000	259	-	4.4	2.2	2.2	2,945,500 Nat West (ad)	529	+1.5	23.5	6.2	-	2,925,000 Nat West (ad)	81	+3	17.7	2.4	2,945,500 Nat West (ad)	529	+1.5	23.5	6.2	-	
3	Telco	Industrials S-Z	1,000,000	125	-	4.2	2.1	2.1	2,945,500 Nat West (ad)	529	+1.5	23.5	6.2	-	2,925,000 Nat West (ad)	81	+3	17.7	2.4	2,945,500 Nat West (ad)	529	+1.5	23.5	6.2	-	
4	Vokes	Electricals	1,000,000	259	-	4.4	2.2	2.2	2,945,500 Nat West (ad)	529	+1.5	23.5	6.2	-	2,925,000 Nat West (ad)	81	+3	17.7	2.4	2,945,500 Nat West (ad)	529	+1.5	23.5	6.2	-	
5	Harrison Croft (aa)	Industrials S-K	1,000,000	241	-	4.4	2.2	2.2	2,945,500 Nat West (ad)	529	+1.5	23.5	6.2	-	2,925,000 Nat West (ad)	81	+3	17.7	2.4	2,945,500 Nat West (ad)	529	+1.5	23.5	6.2	-	
6	Weir	Industrials S-Z	1,000,000	241	-	4.4	2.2	2.2	2,945,500 Nat West (ad)	529	+1.5	23.5	6.2	-	2,925,000 Nat West (ad)	81	+3	17.7	2.4	2,945,500 Nat West (ad)	529	+1.5	23.5	6.2	-	
7	Unisafe	Industrials S-Z	1,000,000	241	-	4.4	2.2	2.2	2,945,500 Nat West (ad)	529	+1.5	23.5	6.2	-	2,925,000 Nat West (ad)	81	+3	17.7	2.4	2,945,500 Nat West (ad)	529	+1.5	23.5	6.2	-	
8	Steeley	Building Roads	1,000,000	241	-	4.4	2.2	2.2	2,945,500 Nat West (ad)	529	+1.5	23.5	6.2	-	2,925,000 Nat West (ad)	81	+3	17.7	2.4	2,945,500 Nat West (ad)	529	+1.5	23.5	6.2	-	
9	Bellwether	Building Roads	1,000,000	241	-	4.4	2.2	2.2	2,945,500 Nat West (ad)	529	+1.5	23.5	6.2	-	2,925,000 Nat West (ad)	81	+3	17.7	2.4	2,945,500 Nat West (ad)	529	+1.5	23.5	6.2	-	
10	Bowthorpe	Electricals	1,000,000	241	-	4.4	2.2	2.2	2,945,500 Nat West (ad)	529	+1.5	23.5	6.2	-	2,925,000 Nat West (ad)	81	+3	17.7	2.4	2,945,500 Nat West (ad)	529	+1.5	23.5	6.2	-	
11	Auto Soc	Electricals	1,000,000	241	-	4.4	2.2	2.2	2,945,500 Nat West (ad)	529	+1.5	23.5	6.2	-	2,925,000 Nat West (ad)	81	+3	17.7	2.4	2,945,500 Nat West (ad)	529	+1.5	23.5	6.2	-	
12	Barnett Devs	Building Roads	1,000,000	241	-	4.4	2.2	2.2	2,945,500 Nat West (ad)	529	+1.5	23.5	6.2	-	2,925,000 Nat West (ad)	81	+3	17.7	2.4	2,945,500 Nat West (ad)	529	+1.5	23.5	6.2	-	
13	Copson PLC	Building Roads	1,000,000	241	-	4.4	2.2	2.2	2,945,500 Nat West (ad)	529	+1.5	23.5	6.2	-	2,925,000 Nat West (ad)	81	+3	17.7	2.4	2,945,500 Nat West (ad)	529	+1.5	23.5	6.2	-	
14	Santiki Beach (aa)	Industrials S-Z	1,000,000	241	-	4.4	2.2	2.2	2,945,500 Nat West (ad)	529	+1.5	23.5	6.2	-	2,925,000 Nat West (ad)	81	+3	17.7	2.4	2,945,500 Nat West (ad)	529	+1.5	23.5	6.2	-	
15	Wimpey G (aa)	Building Roads	1,000,000	241	-	4.4	2.2	2.2	2,945,500 Nat West (ad)	529	+1.5	23.5	6.2	-	2,925,000 Nat West (ad)	81	+3	17.7	2.4	2,945,500 Nat West (ad)	529	+1.5	23.5	6.2	-	
16	Marcay	Building Roads	1,000,000	241	-	4.4	2.2	2.2	2,945,500 Nat West (ad)	529	+1.5	23.5	6.2	-	2,925,000 Nat West (ad)	81	+3	17.7	2.4	2,945,500 Nat West (ad)	529	+1.5	23.5	6.2	-	
17	Savoy Hotels "A"	Hotels, Caterers	1,000,000	241	-	4.4	2.2	2.2	2,945,500 Nat West (ad)	529	+1.5	23.5	6.2	-	2,925,000 Nat West (ad)	81	+3	17.7	2.4	2,945,500 Nat West (ad)	529	+1.5	23.5	6.2	-	
18	Grecian (M)	Building Roads	1,000,000	241	-	4.4	2.2	2.2	2,945,500 Nat West (ad)	529	+1.5	23.5	6.2	-	2,925,000 Nat West (ad)	81	+3	17.7	2.4	2,945,500 Nat West (ad)	529	+1.5	23.5	6.2	-	
19	Yale & Valor	Industrials S-Z	1,000,000	241	-	4.4	2.2	2.2	2,945,500 Nat West (ad)	529	+1.5	23.5	6.2	-	2,925,000 Nat West (ad)	81	+3	17.7	2.4	2,945,500 Nat West (ad)	529	+1.5	23.5	6.2	-	
20	Polyplex	Industrials I-R	1,000,000	241	-	4.4	2.2	2.2	2,945,500 Nat West (ad)	529	+1.5	23.5	6.2	-	2,925,000 Nat West (ad)	81	+3	17.7	2.4	2,945,500 Nat West (ad)	529	+1.5	23.5	6.2	-	
21	Dalgety (aa)	Foods	1,000,000	241	-	4.4	2.2	2.2	2,945,500 Nat West (ad)	529	+1.5	23.5	6.2	-	2,925,000 Nat West (ad)	81	+3	17.7	2.4	2,945,500 Nat West (ad)	529	+1.5	23.5	6.2	-	
22	Edbro	Industrials S-K	1,000,000	241	-	4.4	2.2	2.2	2,945,500 Nat West (ad)	529	+1.5	23.5	6.2	-	2,925,000 Nat West (ad)	81	+3	17.7	2.4	2,945,500 Nat West (ad)	529	+1.5	23.5	6.2	-	
23	Time Products	Drapery, Stores	1,000,000	241	-	4.4	2.2	2.2	2,945,500 Nat West (ad)	529	+1.5	23.5	6.2	-	2,925,000 Nat West (ad)	81	+3	17.7	2.4	2,945,500 Nat West (ad)	529	+1.5	23.5	6.2	-	
24	Bodycote	Industrials A-D	1,000,000	241	-	4.4	2.2	2.2	2,945,500 Nat West (ad)	529	+1.5	23.5	6.2	-	2,925,000 Nat West (ad)	81	+3	17.7	2.4	2,945,500 Nat West (ad)	529	+1.5	23.5	6.2	-	
25	Cook (Wm)	Industrials A-D	1,000,000	241	-	4.4	2.2	2.2	2,945,500 Nat West (ad)	529	+1.5	23.5	6.2	-	2,925,000 Nat West (ad)	81	+3	17.7	2.4	2,945,500 Nat West (ad)	529	+1.5	23.5	6.2	-	
26	Gerard Net	Banks, Discount	1,000,000	241	-	4.4	2.2	2.2	2,945,500 Nat West (ad)	529	+1.5	23.5	6.2	-	2,925,000 Nat West (ad)	81	+3	17.7	2.4	2,945,500 Nat West (ad)	529	+1.5	23.5	6.2	-	
27	Glynned (aa)	Industrials E-K	1,000,000	241	-	4.4	2.2	2.2	2,945,500 Nat West (ad)	529	+1.5	23.5	6.2	-	2,925,000 Nat West (ad)	81	+3	17.7	2.4	2,945,500 Nat West (ad)	529					

Attention switches to Rugby League's premiership after Great Britain's international defeat by France

Eden's treble return takes Wakefield to the brink of success

By Keith Macklin

Salford 18
Wakefield Trinity 28

NEITHER of the coaches, Kevin Tamai, of Salford, and David Toplis, of Wakefield, went home happy. Both described this often scrappy encounter as a "typical end of season game," though the end-to-end scoring and constant fluctuations made it entertaining enough for the spectators.

Toplis was particularly unhappy about his side's display, since Trinity have now moved into eighth place in the championship table and if they can hold off the challenge of Warrington they can qualify for a money-spinning premiership tie at either Wigan or Leeds.

"My lads seemed tired, and it was a hard job drumming into them that a premiership place and a game against the Australian tourists depend on these last few games," said Toplis.

Nevertheless, the Trinity

coach must have been pleased and relieved to see his team come back from 18-16 down to relegated Salford, who certainly put plenty of commitment into their second-half revival. Wakefield's final margin of victory was the result of the alertness of Eden, who timed perfectly two second-half interceptions as Salford threw the ball about with abandon in a thrilling, if desperate, rally after Trinity had lead 12-6 at half time.

Salford dominated the opening quarter of the game, and the former Orwell centre Fell seized a gift touchdown when Leulumi and Timmins got in each other's way, and Eden clinched it with his third try.

It took Wakefield a long time to settle down, but Conway and Lazebny and the Australian veteran Price provided them. Eden got the first of his three tries and Leulumi made up for his error with Trinity's second try just before half time.

In the second half Kerry kicked a penalty for Salford, and then the home side pro-

duced the best move of the match, started by Kerry near his own line and carried on to within inches of the Wakefield line, where Howard was tackled.

It was cruel luck for Salford when Eden scored the first of his interception tries, but they fought back splendidly. Fell got his second try, and the nippy scrum half Brown side-stepped three defenders to go over near the posts. When Kerry landed the goal Salford led 18-16, but Trinity roused themselves, Masson backed up Conway and Kelly to score, and Eden clinched it with his third try.

SCORERS: Salford: Trevor Fall 5, Brown, Gandy, Kerry 3, Whitefield Trinity: Tracy, Eden 3, Mason, Leulumi, Goode, Conway 4, Kelly 2, Howard 1, Price 1, Fall 1, Howard, S. Kerr, P. Conway, S. Price, S. O'Neill, M. Moran, M. Broome-Crozier (Rep: M. Gibb), I. Gorringe, J. Blasius, M. Lee (Rep: C. H. Williams).

WAKEFIELD TRINITY: J. Leulumi; J. Timmins (Rep: J. Hurst), P. Eden, A. Mason, A. Goode, T. Lazebny, M. Conway, J. Gandy (Rep: J. Gandy), J. Kelly, A. Walker, N. Gadi, G. Price, R. Price.

Referees: J. Smith (Hull).

Trainer:

Warrington suffer pre-cup jitters

WHILE Warrington were clinging to their top eight prospects with a win at Salford, Warrington's injury-hit and Wembley-conscious side were slumping to another league defeat, 44-16, at Hull (Keith MacKlin written).

Seven wins in a row have consolidated Hull's position in the top four and there was never any doubt about their victory as they crushed Warrington with eight tries, four in each half.

There was only one resistance from the Challenge Cup finalists as Windley (2), Jackson, Blacker, Eastwood, Sharp, Walker and Price ran in the tries for Hull.

Featherstone Rovers improved their chances of surviving in the first division with a 24-16 win over Bradford Northern. Rovers did the damage in the first half with some excellent rugby which brought them tries from Newlove, Smalley and Bibb, and although Northern rallied in the second half, with Cordle scoring his 26th try of the season, Rovers hung on and

Poor Whitehaven were once again on the receiving end of an awful hammering. Having conceded 92 points against Hull Kingston Rovers a few weeks ago, they took a 74-0 drubbing at home. After the game, Steve Smith, the Haifield back said: "We have missed out on promotion but we have found a form again and we are going all out to get in the second division premiership".

Warrington Town, who set Cumbria alight in mid-week with their unexpected success over Oldham, came back down to earth in the struggling to a 11-0 home win over Darlaston, who have had a disappointing season.

The changing face of Jacques Jordi, the French coach, told the story of this French victory, their first in Britain for 23 years.

When Great Britain went 12-0 up after 23 minutes, Jordi's expression was granite grim.

It remained tense and anxious until France fought their way back to 12-10 with a second penalty by Fraise, which brought a flicker of a smile.

After 52 minutes, a great run

by the powerful left wing, Pons,

set up a try for Rabot, and when

Fraise added a superb goal, to

put France 16-12 ahead, ears of

joy flooded down Jordi's cheeks.

Another penalty by Fraise

with the last kick of the match

sailed over and, as the hoover sounded, Jordi leapt into the air

and rushed on to the Headingley

pitch.

Another penalty by Fraise

with the last kick of the match

sailed over and, as the hoover sounded, Jordi leapt into the air

and rushed on to the Headingley

pitch.

There were excuses for Britain

in the absence of six experienced

international players in the cap-

tain, Hanley, Lydon, Goodway,

Patt, Gregory and Loughlin,

but the reserves and new caps

did little to enhance their own

reputations.

One of these unfortunately was

the former Cardiff wing, Corde,

who started his international

career with a try at the corner,

made by the deputy captain, Edwards, Steadman and Schaf-

fied. His moment of delight

ended later when Pons' several

penalties turned him into the other

members of the international

board.

White France rejoiced, it was

the turn of the Great Britain

coach, Malcolm Reilly, to be

filled with pride as he went home

to claim the title of European

champion. As Reilly's team

headed afterwards, several players

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Lancashire lift the reward of a five-match rugby union tour of Zimbabwe next month

The zestful Morris presses his claims to higher honours

By David Hands
Rugby Correspondent

Lancashire 32
Middlesex 9

ALL three matches played at Twickenham on Saturday provided food for thought. In the main event, Lancashire, winning their fourteenth county championship and the last to be sponsored by Toshiba, offered a reminder of the claims of various individuals to higher honours, among them the zestful Dewi Morris, who scored three of his county's five tries.

When the fourth competition ended in 1982, Lancashire were the visitors; now that the fifth is ending, too, they are champions again and stand one behind Gloucestershire in the overall tally of outright wins since the concept of a championship was adopted 101 years ago.

Building gratefully on the quality of the Orrell pack, they also demonstrated an ability to play a wide game, which was supposed to be the prerogative of Middlesex.

Their reward will be a five-match tour to Zimbabwe next month, though some Lancashire players may justifiably hope to visit other countries in England's colours during the summer: with trips to Italy and Argentina on the schedule such players as Hynes, Kimmings, Manley and Morris may have been debated when the England management met in Richmond on Saturday evening to discuss forthcoming tour parties, as well as their 1991 World Cup squad.

Lancashire won by three goals, two tries and two penalties.

Eagles are grounded

SANTA BARBARA, California (AFB) — A fine performance from the Argentinean players formed the foundations for a 13-6 victory over the United States in the Americas' World Cup qualifying group. Argentina dominated the game, but poor place kicking from Hernan Vides, who missed two easy

penalties, allowed the American Eagles to stay in touch until the closing stages.

The United States are last in their three-team group, after their defeats by the Pumas, the team in Buenos Aires, and Canada. All three countries will qualify, but the group matches are being held for seeding.

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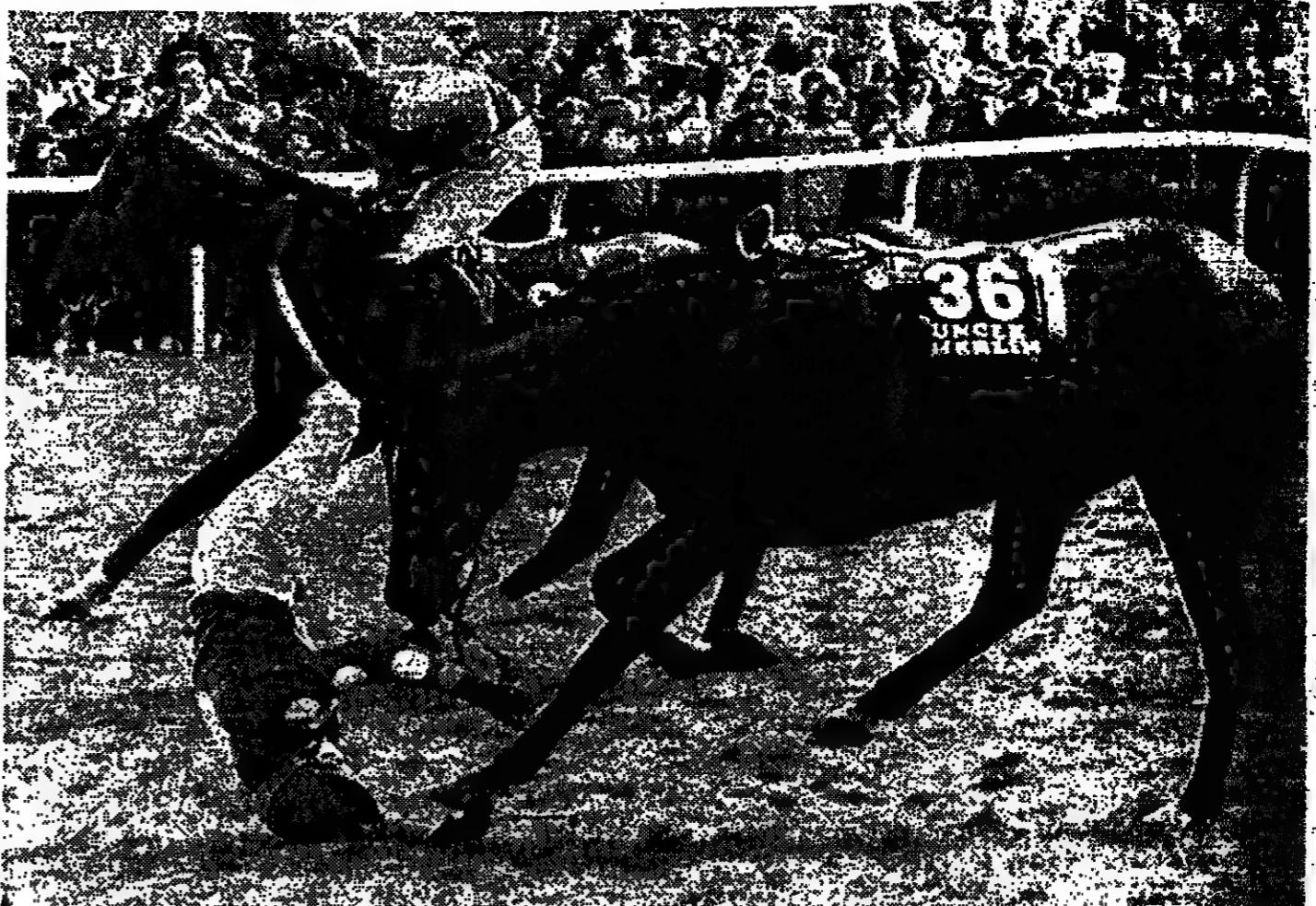
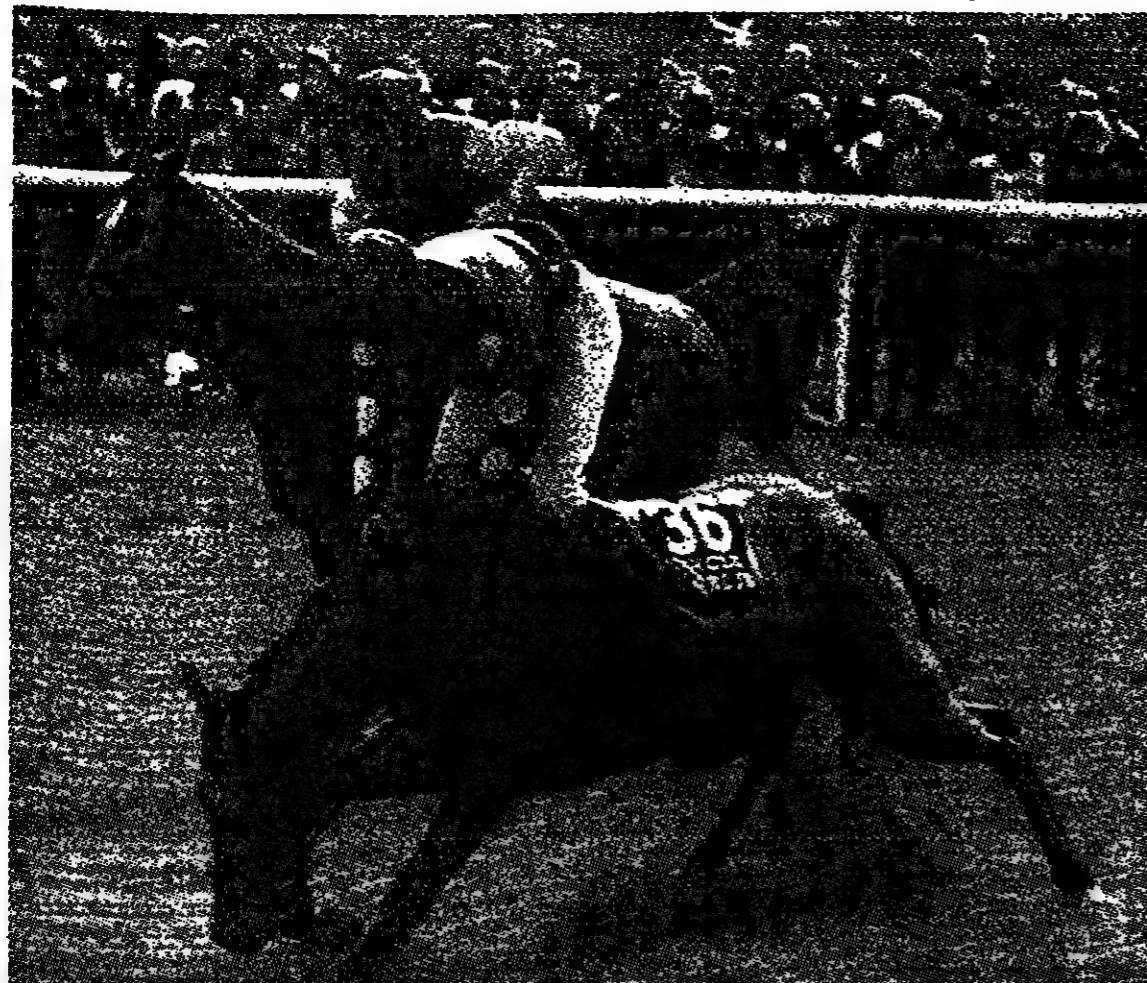
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How the 1990 Grand National was lost and won



Bold-running American challenger Uncle Merlin loses his partner Huw Davies after sprawling on landing at Becher's second time round, leaving Mr Frisk and Marcus Armitage to gallop on for glory

Heartbreak and happiness hand in hand

By Michael Seely
Racing Correspondent

TIM Forster highlighted the eternally tantalizing heartbreak of the Grand National when he said after Uncle Merlin's spectacular fall from grace at Becher's Brook the second time round at Aintree on Saturday.

"All racing's about if's and and's, and about what might have been. The fences are there to be jumped. But you don't often see a horse jump like Uncle Merlin. If I hadn't already won three Nationals, I think I was fated never to win one."

Similarly, Huw Davies, as white-faced and loquacious as ever when holding court to a mob of journalists outside the weighing room. "What a shame," said Uncle Merlin's jockey. "He would have won as he liked, but he came down too steeply and stumbled. It was a classic Becher's situation. I was cantering, only running."

For Arthur Stephenson, who was 70 on Saturday, and for Chris Grant, nearly half his age, it was also a bitter disappointment as Durham Edition, runner-up in 1988 and fourth last year, was half a length adrift of Marcus Armitage and Mr Frisk at the line after Red Rum's record had been beaten by 14 seconds on the fast going.

"The plan was to sit and suffer. But when we jumped

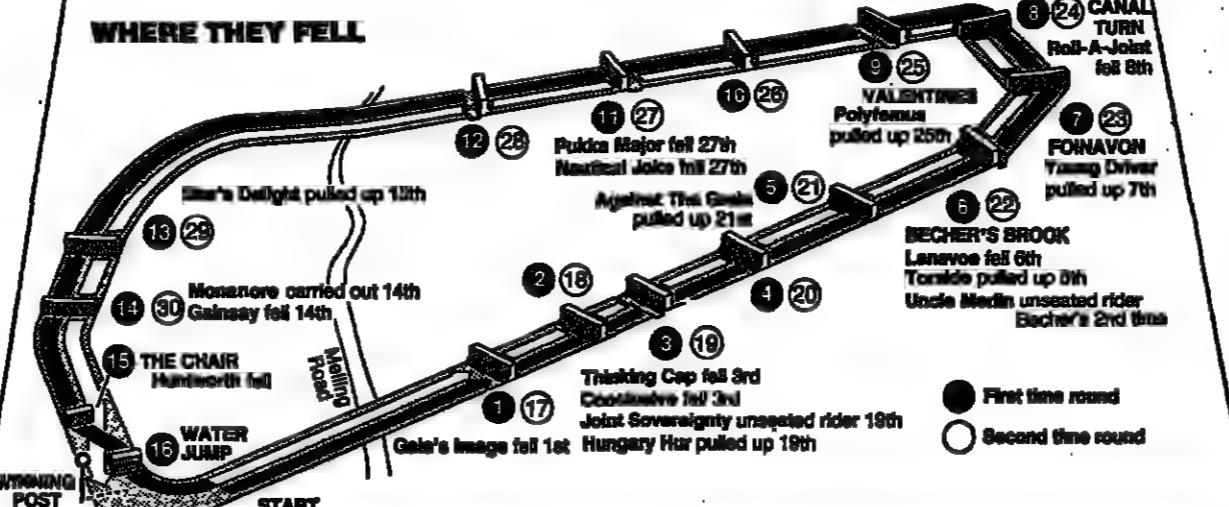
- THE FINISHERS:**
- 1 Mr Frisk
 - 2 Durham Edition
 - 3 Rinus
 - 4 Brown Windsor
 - 5 Lastofthebrownies
 - 6 Bigsun
 - 7 Call Collect
 - 8 Bartess
 - 9 Sir Jest
 - 10 West Tip
 - 11 Team Challenge
 - 12 Charter Hardware
 - 13 Gallo Prince
 - 14 Ghofar
 - 15 Course Hunter
 - 16 Bonanza Boy
 - 17 Solares
 - 18 Gee-A
 - 19 Mick's Star
 - 20 and last Bob Tisdall

the last I knew we weren't going quite well enough. It was only in the last 50 yards I finally realised we wouldn't win. We wouldn't beat Mr Frisk. I think I am fated never to win the National," said the jockey, who also finished runner-up on Young Driver in 1986.

Armitage, winning the National at only his second attempt, was left clear of his rivals when Uncle Merlin fell. "I wouldn't be human if I hadn't been glad to see him go. And it was a bit obvious that he had just gone three lengths clear."

But to the victor go the spoils of war and the fruits of victory. And never was a Grand National winning plan more carefully thought out, then put into skilful execution, than was Mr Frisk's by Kim Bailey and his jockey, who became only the fifth amateur to win the National in the post-war era. Yesterday, Bailey paid this tribute to Armitage.

"Marcus has this extraordinary affinity with Mr Frisk. He seems to be willing him and daring him to jump. It was particularly noticeable in the Hennessy when they were taking off outside the wings."



Armitage had two separate worries beforehand, firstly, that Mr Frisk's flamboyant style of jumping might not be suited to Aintree and, secondly, that the formidable 11-year-old stayer might prove vulnerable to a late attack from one of the favourites.

"He made an early mistake and from then on seemed to settle down and jump well without taking too much out of himself," said the rider.

The strong gallop, set first by Uncle Merlin and then by the eventual winner, was starting to stretch the field as the leader fell. By the time Mr Frisk set sail for home crossing the Melling Road on the run to the second last, only Rinus and Durham Edition

offered a serious threat. At that point Mr Frisk was about 10 lengths ahead.

"I hadn't quite realised how far we were ahead at this point," said Armitage. "I even managed to take things a bit steady so that we could have something left in reserve for the finish."

Then, about those desperate moments as Grant launched his attack on the runner-up.

"I never thought we were going to get beat, particularly when we got the inside at the elbow. I gave him a couple of cracks, but then put my whip down, as I remembered my father telling me to keep him going with hands and heels as I was sure to be tired."

Never can a man have

ridden a cooler finish than did Armitage in the style of all the great Corinthians.

Rinus finished third, 20 lengths behind the runner-up.

"I had a great ride, but Rinus found the ground a bit too lively," said Neal Doughty, after completing the National course for the seventh time from as many mounts.

The enormous ante-post gamble on Brown Windsor

never looked like succeeding at the 7-1 favourite plodded on to finish a tired fourth.

"I had a great ride, but he ran in snatches and was one pace from the Canal," said John

Armitage's mother, Sue.

Similarly, Bigsun never looked like being concerned in the finish and was eventually a remote sixth. "They went too quick for him and he never got in the race," said David Nicholson.

The hoodoo on National Hunt Festival winners continued when Call Collect set first by Uncle Merlin and then by the eventual winner, and did not finish seventh. "I tried to make ground on the inner, but could never get going on the flat ground, although we did stay on at the finish," said Richard Martin.

To say that the Armitage family is steeped in racing history would be an understatement. The rider's sister is the previously more famous Gee, who missed yesterday's race because of an injury. The Armitages' parents are both trainers and his mother was also an international show jumper.

training of Mr Frisk, nor for his wife, Tracey's miraculous transformation of the once neurotic into a superbly gallant racehorse.

"We'd been training him for the National all winter," said the trainer. "We even ran him in soft ground at Ascot with a claimer on to try and get his weight down."

Either the Whifford Gold Cup or the Scottish National would be a target for Mr Frisk if he is pulled out again this season.

It was hard to tell afterwards who was the more delighted 23-year-old Lois Duffy, Mr Frisk's Maryland owner, or Armitage's mother, Sue.

"I entered Mr Frisk for the National without actually knowing if he would be a reme sixth. They went too quick for him and he never got in the race," said David Nicholson.

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RSPCA seeking more changes to Grand National

By Michael Seely

THE RSPCA wishes to arrange a meeting with the Jockey Club to discuss the question of further modifications to the Grand National fences after two horses have been killed in Saturday's race, making a total of 24 fatalities since the War.

"We want to talk to the Jockey Club," said Helen Jessup, a spokeswoman for the RSPCA. "Basically, we want to discuss the idea of further modification of the fences and also the possibility of limiting the size of the field to 30 runners instead of 40 as at present."

On Saturday, Roll-A-Joint took his mount through the Canal Turn at the first time round and Hungry Hare had to be put down after breaking a leg. Tommy Carmody, Hungry Hare's rider, said: "I didn't have a clue at first that anything was wrong. But then he just pulled up and I knew instantly. It's a terribly sad moment for all of us, but I'm not going to blame the National."

Carmody, Hungry Hare's rider, was modified last year after claiming two deaths in 1989, making a total of seven deaths during National Hunt races. This figure represents half a one per cent of all the runners that raced during the campaign.

A breakdown of these figures shows that 59 horses were killed in steeplechases, 101 over hurdles and four in National Hunt flat races. On the Flat during the same period, 26 horses were killed in races or met their death after accidents to running.

During the afternoon, Priven Views broke his back in the first day of the race on the Mildmay course, thereby making an overall total of seven deaths during the three-day meeting.

Speaking for the Jockey Club, David Pipe said: "We are always interested in meeting the RSPCA. They are very responsible and their suggestions are always sensible."

The deaths on the hurdle course and in the National are totally different, and should be treated separately. The three fatalities in the hurdle races were caused principally by competitive racing on a sharp course.

It was interesting to see Peter Sandham's point on Saturday about the pace of the hurdle races being vindicated. For example, in the Sandeman Aintree Hurdle, the leaders were kicking for home with their riders hard at work approaching the final bend, at least for over half a mile from the finishing point. This is just asking for trouble, but difficult to avoid

National casualties	
Total runners	1994-1995
Total falls	520
Falls at Becher's	112
Falls at First	64
Total deaths	24
Deaths at First	10
Deaths at Becher's	10
Deaths at Chair	4

Note: The figures for falls do not include falls, unseated rider, brought down or pulled up. The figures for fences do not include falls or knockdowns to fences. Some horses are killed in races with the most common reason being twice. The Chase is jumped only once.

when so much is at stake in high-class racing.

This year's fatalities amounted to 24 compared to a breakdown of 174 deaths during 1989 under National Hunt rules. This figure represents half a one per cent of all the runners that raced during the campaign.

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HOCKEY

Green sees England to victory

By Joyce Whitehead

IT WAS worth travelling 500 miles to see England retain the title in the home countries under-18 women's tournament in Holyhead at the weekend. Not for a long time has an England team looked so impressive in all departments.

Yesterday, against Ireland, their nearest rivals, Io Green, of Tabor High School, Essex and the East scored three penalty goals, each one with a differently angled shot. Alison Wakefield, of Fareham Tertiary College and South, was England's other scorer in the 4-0 victory but England did not have it all their own way.

For periods in the first half Ireland put the pressure with with perhaps the two best players on the field, Laura Brown on the right and Judith Chapman on the left, they looked dangerous but with the captain, Carolyn Reid, in England's goal and very calm defence in front of her England weathered the storms, took control of the game and in the second half had Brown and Chapman well marked.

Their efforts were well rewarded and they returned home with the Home Countries Under 18 Championship Shield and also the MacRobert Thistle Trophy, awarded to the winner of the Scotland-England match.

RESULTS: Saturday, Ireland 1, Wales 0; England 3, Scotland 1; England 4, Wales 2; Scotland 1, England 1; England 2, Scotland 1; Wales 4, Scotland 2. Sunday, England 4, Scotland 1; England 3, Wales 2; Scotland 1, England 1; England 2, Scotland 1; Wales 4, Scotland 2.

ROWING

Olympian shows her class

By a Special Correspondent

ANN Marden, the American silver medal winner in the Seoul Olympic Games, who is now living in Britain, put up an amazing performance in the Scullers Head of the River Race on Saturday by fighting her way up from a starting position of 34th to finish eighteenth. This put her within a minute of the winner and only 27 seconds behind Steven Redgrave.

Marden was a truly remarkable achievement on a day when a lone north-easterly breeze made conditions distinctly tough between Barnes Bridge and Chiswick Steps.

While Simon Larkin lost his title to the up-and-coming Rory Henderson, of Leander, a big surprise was the eclipse of Redgrave, the favourite, who started second but had a race he will want to forget.

Redgrave had trouble with his navigation and was looking

means of training and selecting oarsmen, and all the best seem to be drawn into rowing crews.

PROVISIONAL RESULTS (starting position in parentheses): 1. P. Hart (16-1)

Mr Frisk (16-1); 2. S. Larkin (16-1)

Nottingham BC (16-1); 3. C. Smith (16-1)

(Novice) (16-1); 4. G. Doherty (16-1)

Monmouth (16-1); 5. S. Armitage (16-1)

Wales (16-1); 6. S. Bigsun (16-1)

Gateshead (16-1); 7. A. Gee-A (16-1)

Team Challenge (16-1); 8. C. Call Collect (16-1)

Charter Hardware (16-1); 9. M. Armitage (16-1)

Uncle Merlin (16-1); 10. G. Armitage (16-1)

West Tip (16-1); 11. G. Armitage (16-1)

Old Chigwellians (16-1); 12. G. Armitage (16-1)

Bigsun (16-1); 13. G. Armitage (16-1)

Course Hunter (16-1); 14. G. Armitage (16-1)

Bonanza Boy (16-1); 15. G. Armitage (16-1)

Solares (16-1); 16. G. Armitage (16-1)

Geoffrey (16-1); 17. G. Armitage (16-1)

Team Challenge (16-1); 18. G. Armitage (16-1)

Charter Hardware (16-1); 19. G. Armitage (16-1)

Uncle Merlin (16-1); 20. G. Armitage (16-1)

West Tip (16-1); 21. G. Armitage (16-1)

Old Chigwellians (16-1); 22. G. Armitage (16-1)

Bigsun (16-1); 23. G. Armitage (16-1)

Course Hunter (16-1); 24. G. Armitage (16-1)

Bonanza Boy (16-1); 25. G. Armitage (16-1)

Solares (16-1); 26. G. Armitage (16-1)

Geoffrey (16-1); 27. G. Armitage (16-1)

Post-race verdicts of the 38 jockeys

By Christopher Goulding

THESE were the views of the 38 jockeys in the Grand National.

MARCUS ARMYTAGE (Mr Pinty): I don't know if it was the easiest round you'd have ever seen, but we got home in front. I couldn't believe it. I thought he was going to tie up about three out but he got a second wind.

We made a couple of minor mistakes but they probably did him more good than harm. I was tracking Hywel Davies and Uncle Martin a lot of the way and he was telling me to go a bit slower.

CHRIS GRANT (Durham East): That's the way it goes. He did everything right, jumped well, but he does not quite get the trip. I just don't think it's to be that I win the Grand National — if I was a horse they would put blinkers on me, wouldn't they?

NEALE DOUGHTY (Rimous): We'll be back next year. He made a couple of mistakes but really the ground was against him. Crossing the Melling Road, I realized I wouldn't get to Marcus, and called across to Chris: 'Good luck son, I think you'll make it.'

JOHN WHITIE (Brown Windsor): He ran really well and jumped well but was just not good enough on the day. We'll try again next year.

CHARLIE SWAN (Lastofthebrown): It was a bit fast for him and we were flat out all the way. He jumped brilliantly. An excellent first ride.

RICHARD DUNWODY (Biggin): He was always strong after Becher's second this round. Pukka Major fell in front of us but, apart from that, I had a trouble-free round.

RAYMOND MARTIN (Call Collect): They were always going too fast and there was no way we were ever going to get to them. He was staying on really well up the straight and jumped brilliantly.

MICHAEL BOWLEY (Barbet): He jumped well throughout. I was still in with a chance going to the third last and looked as if I might run in a place, but then he tired quickly.

BRIAN STOREY (Sir Jess): Just beautiful. He fired in the last half-mile but this is the first time he has completed.

PETER HORBS (West Tip): I was handy from the start but we were about two-thirds of the way back after the first and then where we stayed, I put it down to the flat ground and his age. It probably his last run in the race.

BEN DE HAAN (Team Challenge): I had a very good ride but

he was just not quick enough. He jumped smashing but just could not lay up with the pace.

NORMAN WILLIAMSON (Charter Hardware): We were handily down to Becher's but he's a bit one-paced. We will come back next year and hope it is soft.

JOSÉ SIMO (Gallie Prince): I had one problem at Becher's Brook first time. But they were always going too fast for my horse. I shall be back next year as I like English racing, especially the Grand National.

BRENDAN POWELL (Ghoshay): He is only a baby so I was pleased with him. He had a rehearsal for next year.

GRAHAM BRADLEY (Course Hunter): A great ride. He jumped very well, but got tired in the last half-mile.

PETER SCUDAMORE (Bonanza Boys): I suppose the ground was too fast, but he gave me a good ride.

PAUL McMAHON (Solaris): The ground was the problem but he did very well to finish 17th.

DECLAN MURPHY (Geo-A): He jumped like a buck and I couldn't have hoped for a better ride.

MARK PITMAN (Gainsay): I fell at the one before The Chair. Had a smashing ride up to them. Just landed on top of it and went a right somersault.

RONALD LOWER (Star's Delight): He was loving it, especially, home and head. He stood off at the Canal Turn and after that he was going backwards. I felt there was something wrong and discovered he'd broken a blood vessel.

SIMON MCNEILL (Roll-A-Joint): It's tragic.

MARIE RICHARDS (Pukka Major): He jumped off well thanks to Jimmy Dugger (an Young Driver) holding on to the reins. We were going well until the 27th where he got in a bit close. I don't think we'd have been any better than sixth.

RICHARD ROWE (Polyfemus): He went well for a circuit but made a bad mistake at The Chair and lost his position. He was not striding out well and I pulled him up.

PAT LEECH (Lanavoe): He jumped the first few all right, then Becher's just got a bit slow.

STEVE SMITH ECCLES (Concierge): He never got high enough and gave me a nasty kick to the neck.

PAT MALONE (Thinking Cap): It was my first ride and the fences were a bit too big for him.

JOHN SHORTT (Gila's Image): He just missed out even though the fence had been the way it was before, he'd have broken his neck.

JIMMY FROST (Torside): I pulled up before Becher's as he was hitting it.

FAT LEECH (Lanavoe): He jumped the first few all right, then Becher's just got a bit slow.

DAVID SMITH (Eccles): He never got high enough and gave me a nasty kick to the neck.

PAT MALONE (Thinking Cap): It was my first ride and the fences were a bit too big for him.

JOHN SHORTT (Gila's Image): He just missed out even though the fence had been the way it was before, he'd have broken his neck.

JAMIE OSBORNE (Against The Grain): We got duchess.

Point-to-point By Brian Beal

THE TIMES Point-to-point Championship

fully 25 lengths adrift on the favourite.

After jumping the second-last in front, Cliff's Knight looked the likely winner, but Lady Tiki unleashed a strong run to gain a three-quarters of a length victory over the unconsidered Lean On Me (Paul McNickle).

Results from Saturday's

PIRATES CLUB (Liam Horan): Paul (2nd), Tom's Last 3, Charles Major (3rd). 1st, Charles T. Whistler; 2, Wallace 3, Just Medicinalist; 4, ram.

NEJDPORT (Fiona Haught): Head 1, Mr Spot (1); 2, Frankie 2, Pauline 3, Mrs. G. (4th); 3, Second Attempt; 4, Starburst (2); 5, Second Chance (3); 6, Second Attempt; 7, Whitehill (3); 8, Open; 9, Secret Slave (3); 10, Robbin' 2; 11, Own Off; 12, Fredrick (2); 13, Robbin' 2; 14, Second Chance (3); 15, Second Chance (3); 16, Second Chance (3); 17, Second Chance (3); 18, Second Chance (3); 19, Second Chance (3); 20, Second Chance (3); 21, Second Chance (3); 22, Second Chance (3); 23, Second Chance (3); 24, Second Chance (3); 25, Second Chance (3); 26, Second Chance (3); 27, Second Chance (3); 28, Second Chance (3); 29, Second Chance (3); 30, Second Chance (3); 31, Second Chance (3); 32, Second Chance (3); 33, Second Chance (3); 34, Second Chance (3); 35, Second Chance (3); 36, Second Chance (3); 37, Second Chance (3); 38, Second Chance (3); 39, Second Chance (3); 40, Second Chance (3); 41, Second Chance (3); 42, Second Chance (3); 43, Second Chance (3); 44, Second Chance (3); 45, Second Chance (3); 46, Second Chance (3); 47, Second Chance (3); 48, Second Chance (3); 49, Second Chance (3); 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472, Second Chance (3); 473, Second Chance (3); 474, Second Chance (3); 47

Oldham Athletic's dream of two Wembley finals this season is still alive after sharing six goals with Manchester United

Second chapter eagerly awaited

By Stuart Jones
Football Correspondent

Manchester United..... 3

Oldham Athletic..... 3

THE longest day in the history of the FA Cup finished without a final conclusion. Six hours after one semi-final started in Birmingham, the other ended in Manchester amid breathtaking tension and breathless relief. The Herculean efforts of Manchester United and Oldham Athletic, mercifully, had not been in vain.

Together they defied all logical predictions and painted a picture vivid and compelling as the unexpected drama which had unfolded earlier. Together they raised the total of goals during the televised extravaganza to 13 and ahead lies the promise of still more unpredictable and lavish entertainment.

They will return to Maine Road on Wednesday night to replay for the right to meet Crystal Palace in the showpiece of the season at Wembley on May 12. For United, therefore, and particularly for their manager, Alex Ferguson, there is still a gleam of tin in an otherwise leaden sea.

Throughout the troubled months of uncertainty and inconsistency, Ferguson has been unable to choose his strongest line-up. Because of injuries, he has had, in his words, to use electricians as plumbers. For the first time since early September, he had the comparative luxury of picking men for their rightful jobs.

Yet his selection was not without risk. He gambled on the fitness of Robson, the captain who has been unavailable for more than three months; of Webb who has represented United only briefly in the last seven months and of Gibson, who until recently had been out for 18 months.

Initially, it seemed to have failed. Robson, playing from distant memory, was inadvertently involved as Old-



Men of influence: Two key midfield players Robson (left) and Milligan dispute possession at Maine Road

ham took an early lead. In hesitating to clear Rick Holden's cross, he unsettled his own goalkeeper. Leighton fumbled and Barrett opened his massive contribution by claiming only his third goal of the season.

But Ferguson's decision to recall both of his England internationals was soon to be vindicated. On the half-hour Webb, filling a forward role designed to preserve his limited stamina and to suit his creative instincts, released Robson through an almost impregnable offside trap and United were level.

The tie, thereafter, fluc-

tuated crazily. Before the interval Ince cleared off the line from Henry and after it Barrett deflected wide. Robson's shot and Barlow apparently pushed over Webb inside the area. Extraordinarily, United have not scored a penalty all season. The only one they were awarded, on opening day, was missed.

Oldham were marginally the more convincing as a unit. In Barrett they were shielded by the most competent defender, in Milligan they were guided by the most industrious midfield player and in Marshall they were armed

with the most willing forward. During the last hour, he mounted a challenge of his own.

Once Robson had been overcome by fatigue, though, Wallace changed the semi-final in the direction of United. His first touch, albeit a miscued cross, allowed Martin to confuse Halford and Andy Holden. The ball bounced off the top of Webb's head and his side were advancing towards their third successive victory, a sequence unprecedented this season.

But Oldham responded immediately. Marshall, who had twice stretched Leighton

to the limit, crisply converted Redfern's cross and extended the fixture by an additional half hour. He greeted extra time with another menacing attempt which was cleared off the line by Bruce.

Once again the balance shifted. Wallace brought on to inject speed and more purpose into United's front line, was freed delightfully by McClain and he scored with a shot which bobbed past Halford. Once more, Oldham, the conquerors of Aston Villa and Everton in previous rounds, replied patiently and constructively.

A dozen minutes remained when Milligan opened the way for Marshall on the left. His early cross was turned in by Palmer and, although McClain, Robins and Hughes threatened belatedly to usher United towards Wembley, Oldham completed their 16th cup tie retaining their ambitions of competing in the finals of both domestic competitions.

MANCHESTER UNITED..... J Leigh...

M Robson, R Bruce, G...

G Palmer, P McLean, B Robins, N...

B Hughes, D... Soton, B...

NOTTINGHAM FOREST..... S...

R Hoddle, P Pearce, J...

E... T. Wilcox, N...

D. Hause, G...

TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR..... S...

R. Law, S. Christie, D. Walker, T. Wilson, S...

Hodge, G...

T. Taylor, L. Allen, G...

Den Hauw, A...

Nayim, and Allen forced the ball over the line.

Forest flattered briefly when Hodge hit back, but Tottenham soon restored their two-goal advantage. Christie, failing to hold the winning of Wembley, was nonetheless maintaining his composure from the mid-point of the debate, left Linaker free to set up the impressive Allen for a goal in the 72nd minute.

NOTTINGHAM FOREST..... S. Sutton, B...

R. Law, S. Christie, D. Walker, T. Wilson, S...

Hodge, G...

T. Taylor, L. Allen, G...

Den Hauw, A...

Nayim, and Allen forced the ball over the line.

Forest missed Pearce's competitive spirit in defence desperately on Saturday, while in attack Hoddle, who has missed four of the last five games, has indicated his value to Forest as a goalscorer by claiming both of their two goals during this spell.

Conversely, Tottenham, eliminated from the Littlewoods Cup at the quarter-final stage by Forest, are threatening to finish the season as strongly as they did the last one, and secured their third consecutive victory.

Terry Venables, their manager, agreed that it augured well for next season but, mindful of

the absence of Hodge and Pearce during part of this recent decline, is not without

concern.

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the absence of Hodge and Pearce during part of this recent decline, is not without

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Forest missed Pearce's competitive spirit in defence

desperately on Saturday, while in attack Hoddle, who has

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FOOTBALL

Rangers are able to dominate despite severe injury blows

By Roddy Forsyth

Aberdeen 0
Rangers 0

THE fact that Rangers now require only three points from their four remaining fixtures, after this goalless game at Pittodrie, to be certain of retaining the Scottish championship, scarcely seemed important last night following injuries to two of their potential World Cup players.

Jan Ferguson, was carried off after only seventeen minutes, the victim of an overbearing tackle by Gilhams, for which Aberdeen's Dutch forward was cautioned.

Ferguson damaged a knee ligament and is likely to be out for five weeks, which may rule him out of the Scottish World Cup squad.

Gary Stevens also left the field in the first half with a suspected fractured fibula, although his injury was accidental. An X-ray this morning will give a clearer indication as to what his chances are of taking his place at right back in the England team in Italy.

The Rangers' manager,

Celtic surrender edges St Mirren to safety

ONE of the most remarkable results anywhere on Saturday was yielded by St Mirren's visit to Parkhead, where they emerged as 3-0 winners over a hapless Celtic side, many of whose supporters in the initial crowd of 18,481 left long before the final whistle (Roddy Forsyth writes).

The destruction of Celtic came in the 25th minute when Stevie, the West German, crossed perfectly for Torrison, his Icelandic colleague, to head powerfully past Bonner.

Shaw scored a second when he stuck up McCallum's wretched pass and in the second half, Lambert completed the rout when he showed good close

Graeme Souness, was in outspoken mood after the match, although he insisted that his remarks did not apply to yesterday's game.

"When I first came to the club four years ago there was heavy criticism of our disciplinary record. We have worked hard to improve that and we are now the best in the premier division," Souness said.

"People in high places are making noises about the quality of football played in Scotland. But there is no point in spending millions of pounds to bring the likes of Mark Wallace and Trevor Steven to Scotland to entertain, if they are not going to be allowed to entertain. The better players are abused physically."

Rangers were entitled to feel aggrieved about a refereeing decision which cost them a penalty kick in the first half when Robert Connor handled in front of his own goal while jostling for possession with Johnston. But neither referee Syme nor his linesman saw anything untoward.

The champions might well have gone on to win on the control to finish with a rising drive past Bonner.

St Mirren thus put five points between themselves and the bottom club, Dunfermline, whom they meet at Dens Park next Saturday. Dunfermline, too, heightened their chances of survival with a notable 3-1 victory over Motherwell at Fir Park, the result being secured by two penalty kicks scored by Syme not his linesman saw anything untoward.

The champions might well have gone on to win on the

Gilhams might have deprived Rangers of their prize point but struck a rasping shot narrowly past Woods' left hand post with six minutes left.

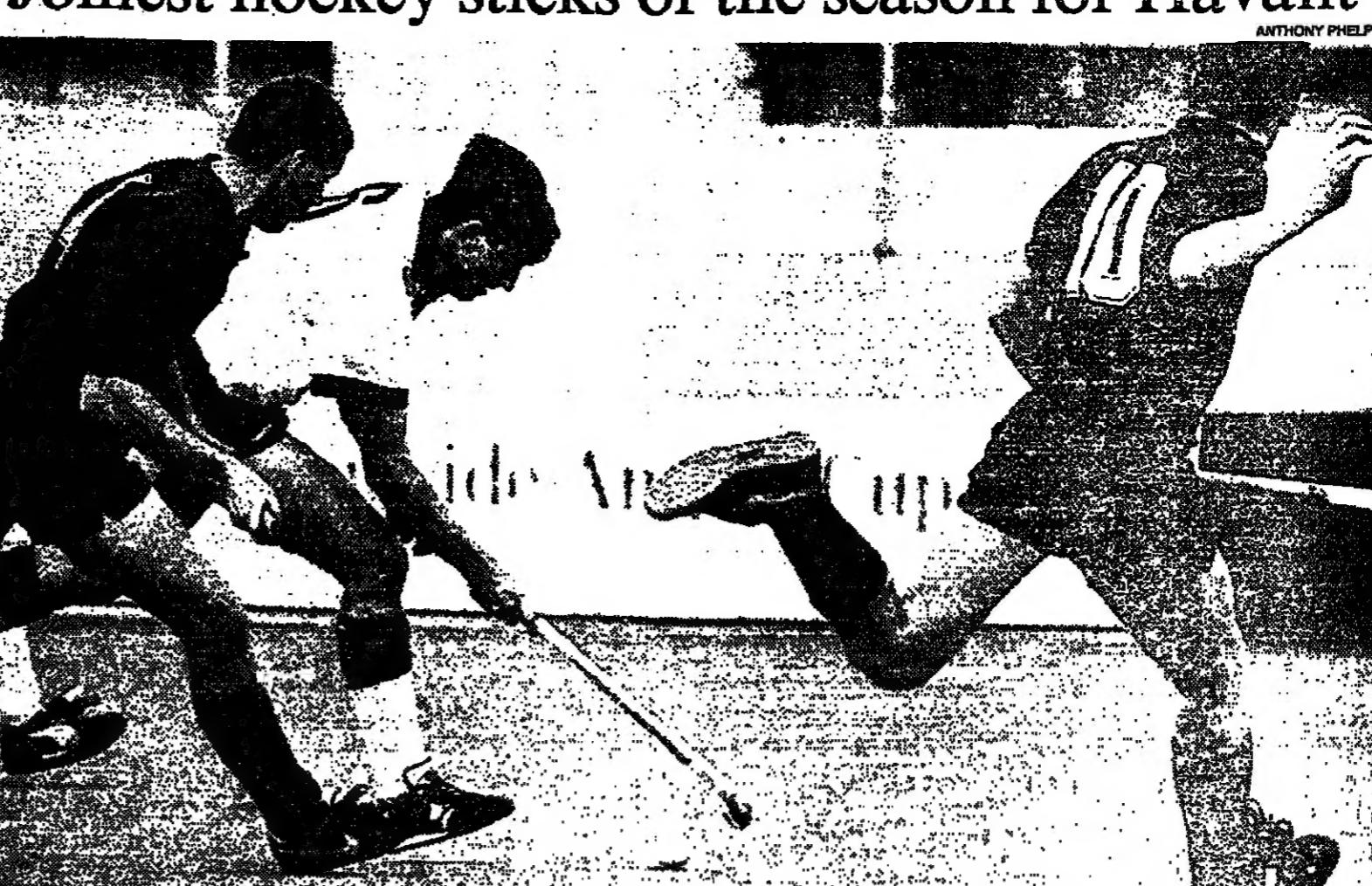
But his attempt hardly interrupted the noisy salutes of the Rangers fans at the Beach End, who acclaimed what they perceive as their imminent retention of the pennant.

AGENTS: F. Mihm; S. McMenamin, R. Connor, B. Grant, A. McLean, S. Irvine, C. Nicholas, J. Bell, P. Mason, N. Simpson (not with); J. Cameron, H. Glavin.

MANAGERS: C. W. Williams (not with); J. Brown, S. McCallum, R. Gough, N. Stevenson, T. Boucher, T. Steven, I. Ferguson (not with); D. Dodds, P. McColl, M. Johnston, M. Williams, D. F. T. Syme.

Referees: D. F. T. Syme.

Havant 0
Stourport 0



Sticking in: Williams, of Havant, dribbles past Richard Lee, of Stourport, as Bleach converges in the Nationwide Anglia Cup final at Luton

The long quest of a team that lost its faith ends on the doorstep of Europe

By Sydney Friskin

Havant 0
Stourport 0

HAVANT'S long search for one of the season's best prizes ended in triumph yesterday at Luton, where they took possession of the Nationwide Anglia Cup after an emphatic victory over Stourport, before a crowd of about 4,000.

In the past two seasons, Havant's hopes had been crushed at the semi-final stage of the national club championship and their chances of seizing the national league title also faded at the closing stages. But yesterday they found faith in themselves and made sure of their entry into Europe, where they will play next season in the Cup Winners' Cup.

Havant's performance as a team transcended everything that had gone earlier in the season. The inspiration yesterday having been provided by Peter Nail, their centre half, who was duly singled out as the man of the match.

So far for Stourport, their conquests had ended after they had achieved the two most astonishing results by defeating both Hounslow and Southgate, but yesterday was not one of their best days and they were overruled by a superior side that took the match by the scruff of the neck and never let go.

Within six minutes, Robert Hill delivered Stourport a severe blow by converting a short corner with a powerful hit along the ground. By the time the first half ended, Havant had forced three more short corners, which severely tested the Stourport defence.

To add to Stourport's woes,

Sadly for Stourport, their conquests had ended after they had achieved the two most astonishing results by defeating both Hounslow and Southgate, but yesterday was not one of their best days and they were overruled by a superior side that took the match by the scruff of the neck and never let go.

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Havant, recovering their composure, went further ahead in the 43rd minute, with Colin Cooper picking up a pass from Williams to score from close in. Within a minute, Cooper sent Nail racing through a gap in defence to drive to the third goal and Stourport were left with little hope.

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To add to Stourport's woes,

Despite the continuing dominance by Havant, Stourport themselves earned three short corners before the interval, but the threat of a score was on each occasion averted by Havant, who went into the interval less securely placed than they should have been.

At the start of the second half, Chaudry led an assault that must have raised Stourport's hopes, but his back-pass cluded the sticks of two colleagues following up.

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To add to Stourport's woes,

FOR THE RECORD

ATHLETICS

100m Hurdles: 1. M. Yanez (Peru), 9.01; 2. N. M. Johnson (USA), 9.01; 3. J. Peñate (Peru), 9.02; 4. S. V. T. Johnson (USA), 9.02.

110m Hurdles: 1. M. H. Thompson (USA), 12.11; 2. S. Koenig (Brazil), 12.15; 3. C. Stewart (USA), 12.16; 4. J. C. Flanagan (USA), 12.24.

1500m: 10,000m: 1. S. Crossen (USA), 3:57.2; 2. C. Flanagan (USA), 3:57.7; 3. C. Smith (USA), 3:58.1.

200m Hurdles: 1. G. McPherson (USA), 26.10; 2. H. Coyle (USA), 26.11; 3. J. G. Thompson (USA), 26.12.

200m: 1. M. H. Thompson (USA), 22.01; 2. S. Koenig (Brazil), 22.02; 3. C. Stewart (USA), 22.03.

3000m Steeplechase: 1. M. H. Thompson (USA), 8:53.0; 2. S. Koenig (Brazil), 8:54.0; 3. C. Stewart (USA), 8:55.0.

400m: 1. M. H. Thompson (USA), 47.20; 2. S. Koenig (Brazil), 47.21; 3. C. Stewart (USA), 47.22.

400m Hurdles: 1. M. H. Thompson (USA), 51.00; 2. S. Koenig (Brazil), 51.01; 3. C. Stewart (USA), 51.02.

4x100m Relay: 1. USA (H. Coyle, S. Koenig, C. Stewart, M. H. Thompson), 40.11; 2. Brazil (M. H. Thompson, S. Koenig, C. Stewart, H. Coyle), 40.12.

4x400m Relay: 1. USA (H. Coyle, S. Koenig, C. Stewart, M. H. Thompson), 3:23.11; 2. Brazil (M. H. Thompson, S. Koenig, C. Stewart, H. Coyle), 3:23.12.

4x800m Relay: 1. USA (H. Coyle, S. Koenig, C. Stewart, M. H. Thompson), 7:50.00; 2. Brazil (M. H. Thompson, S. Koenig, C. Stewart, H. Coyle), 7:50.01.

4x1500m Relay: 1. USA (H. Coyle, S. Koenig, C. Stewart, M. H. Thompson), 12:45.00; 2. Brazil (M. H. Thompson, S. Koenig, C. Stewart, H. Coyle), 12:46.00.

4x3000m Relay: 1. USA (H. Coyle, S. Koenig, C. Stewart, M. H. Thompson), 17:45.00; 2. Brazil (M. H. Thompson, S. Koenig, C. Stewart, H. Coyle), 17:46.00.

5000m Steeplechase: 1. M. H. Thompson (USA), 13:25.00; 2. S. Koenig (Brazil), 13:26.00; 3. C. Stewart (USA), 13:27.00.

5000m: 1. M. H. Thompson (USA), 13:25.00; 2. S. Koenig (Brazil), 13:26.00; 3. C. Stewart (USA), 13:27.00.

5000m Hurdles: 1. M. H. Thompson (USA), 13:25.00; 2. S. Koenig (Brazil), 13:26.00; 3. C. Stewart (USA), 13:27.00.

60m: 1. M. H. Thompson (USA), 6.60; 2. S. Koenig (Brazil), 6.61; 3. C. Stewart (USA), 6.62.

100m: 1. M. H. Thompson (USA), 10.00; 2. S. Koenig (Brazil), 10.01; 3. C. Stewart (USA), 10.02.

110m: 1. M. H. Thompson (USA), 10.00; 2. S. Koenig (Brazil), 10.01; 3. C. Stewart (USA), 10.02.

1500m: 1. M. H. Thompson (USA), 3:53.00; 2. S. Koenig (Brazil), 3:54.00; 3. C. Stewart (USA), 3:55.00.

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3000m: 1. M. H. Thompson (USA), 8:53.00; 2. S. Koenig (Brazil), 8:54.00; 3. C. Stewart (USA), 8:55.00.

400m: 1. M. H. Thompson (USA), 47.20; 2. S. Koenig (Brazil), 47.21; 3. C. Stewart (USA), 47.22.

400m Hurdles: 1. M. H. Thompson (USA), 51.00; 2. S. Koenig (Brazil), 51.01; 3. C. Stewart (USA), 51.02.

4x100m Relay: 1. USA (H. Coyle, S. Koenig, C. Stewart, M. H. Thompson), 40.11; 2. Brazil (M. H. Thompson, S. Koenig, C. Stewart, H. Coyle), 40.12.

4x400m Relay: 1. USA (H. Coyle, S. Koenig, C. Stewart, M. H. Thompson), 3:23.11; 2. Brazil (M. H. Thompson, S. Koenig, C. Stewart, H. Coyle), 3:23.12.

4x800m Relay: 1. USA (H. Coyle, S. Koenig, C. Stewart, M. H. Thompson), 7:50.00; 2. Brazil (M. H. Thompson, S. Koenig, C. Stewart, H. Coyle), 7:50.01.

4x1500m Relay: 1. USA (H. Coyle, S. Koenig, C. Stewart, M. H. Thompson), 12:45.00; 2. Brazil (M. H. Thompson, S. Koenig, C. Stewart, H. Coyle), 12:46.00.

4x3000m Relay: 1. USA (H. Coyle, S. Koenig, C. Stewart, M. H. Thompson), 17:45.00; 2. Brazil (M. H. Thompson, S. Koenig, C. Stewart, H. Coyle), 17:46.00.

5000m Steeplechase: 1. M. H. Thompson (USA), 13:25.00; 2. S. Koenig (Brazil), 13:26.00; 3. C. Stewart (USA), 13:27.00.

5000m: 1. M. H. Thompson (USA), 13:25.00; 2. S. Koenig (Brazil), 13:26.00; 3. C. Stewart (USA), 13:27.00.

5000m Hurdles: 1. M. H. Thompson (USA), 13:25.00; 2. S. Koenig (Brazil), 13:26.00; 3. C. Stewart (USA), 13:27.00.

60m: 1. M. H. Thompson (USA), 6.60; 2. S. Koenig (Brazil), 6.61; 3. C. Stewart (USA), 6.62.

100m: 1. M. H. Thompson (USA), 10.00; 2. S. Koenig (Brazil), 10.01; 3. C. Stewart (USA), 10.02.

110m: 1. M. H. Thompson (USA), 10.00; 2. S. Koenig (Brazil), 10.01; 3. C. Stewart (USA), 10.02.

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4x100m Relay: 1. USA (H. Coyle, S. Koenig, C. Stewart, M. H. Thompson), 40.11; 2. Brazil (M. H. Thompson, S. Koenig, C. Stewart, H. Coyle), 40.12.

4x400m Relay: 1. USA (H. Coyle, S. Koenig, C. Stewart, M. H. Thompson), 3:23.11; 2. Brazil (M. H. Thompson, S. Koenig, C. Stewart,

West Indies cricketers frustrated by touring side's delaying tactics as over-rates plunge in the fourth Test

England slow their fight for survival

From Alan Lee
Cricket Correspondent
Bridgetown, Barbados

ENGLAND adopted shameless delaying tactics at Kensington Oval yesterday in an effort to put off the evil moment when they would be required to bat again to save this fourth Cable and Wireless Test Match.

As the West Indies, directed by Desmond Haynes, their vice-captain, aimed to secure a lead of around 350 before declaring, England succeeded in their dawdling to such a degree that the over-rate, the contentious issue of this otherwise riveting series, plunged to a low of 10 per hour. At tea, 47 of the day's scheduled 90 overs ostensibly remained to be bowled.

England's tactics were as pre-determined, and almost as blatant, as the West Indian time-wasting had been on the final day in Trinidad.

The delaying manoeuvres climaxed in a charade of a final over before lunch. DeFreitas began it with 6½ minutes remaining but had little trouble filling out the time by inventing bootlace trouble and halting several times on his meandering walk back between balls, while Lamb made minute adjustments to the field.

Haynes's approach in Trinidad, designed to stop England's run chase, had been more manic but no more effective, and as he waited to receive strike, he turned and gestured to the press box. At the end of the over, he ironically clapped Lamb as the players left the field.

England will doubtless call their attitude "professionalism". The uncommitted could rationally call it cheating. Whatever its justifications, however, the fact that the West Indies were on the receiving end just might help persuade their intransigent administrators that no future series here should take place without their agreement on heavy fines for failing to meet a stipulated over-rate.

With no legislation to support the mythical minimum of

Record partnership

ALLAN Lamb and Robin Smith's fourth-wicket stand of 193, an improvement of 21 on their performance at Kingston, is England's record partnership in Test matches at Bridgetown. Their previous highest partnership in nine Test matches on the ground was an opening stand of 172 between John Edrich and Geoff Boycott in 1967-68. Lamb, in his first Test as England captain, made his ninth Test 100 against West Indies, and Smith, batting for more than six hours, made his highest score against them.

MOTOR RACING

Finns stay ahead in Formula Three

By Stephen Slater

FINNISH domination of the British Formula Three championship continued at Silverstone yesterday, when Mikko Salo led the second race of the series from startline to chequered flag.

Salo, driving a Ralt-Mugen car prepared by the Silverstone-based Alan Docking team, beat Mike Robertson, another Finn who had won the Donington race, off the starting grid, and then set a track record, lapping the revised Silverstone circuit at an average 103.41 mph.

Britain's Steve Robertson passed Hakkinen to take second place for the second successive weekend in the Volkswagen-powered Formula Three. "The season has started well for me, but I'm tired of following the Finns," said Robertson. "I'm going to win next time out!"

Schlesser recovers to give Mercedes victory

SUZUKA, Japan (AFP) — Even an old sport Sauber-Mercedes car with a leaky tank proved better than the rest in the opening world sportscar prototype championship race here on Sunday.

Jean-Louis Schlesser, of France, and Mauro Baldi, of Italy, charged from the back of the field after stopping a fuel leak at the start to win the 480-kilometre (300-mile) race for the second year running.

Schlesser, the 1989 champion, who crashed the newest Mercedes C-11 beyond repair during practice on Saturday, and co-driver Baldi, steered a spare C-9 to finish in two hours 43 minutes 45.42 seconds.

The regular 900hp prototype C-9, driven by the No. 2 Mercedes duo of Jochen Mass and Karl Wendlinger, of West Germany, also overcame a shaky start and crossed the line 42.333 seconds behind.

The 41-year-old Schlesser found one of the two fuel pumps defective with a bolt missing during a rolling run leading to

SCOREBOARD FROM BARBADOS

England won toss

West Indies

First Innings

	6s	4s	Mins	Balls
D G Greenidge c Russell b DeFreitas	41	0	6	108
D L Haynes c Stewart b Small	0	0	0	9
R B Richardson c Russell b Small	45	0	8	144
C A Best c Russell b Small	164	0	19	428
J V A Richards c Russell b Capel	70	2	7	151
A L Lorige c Russell b Capel	37	0	5	97
T P Wilson c Lamb b Small	31	0	5	132
M D Marshall c Lamb b Small	4	0	1	12
G E Lamb not out	20	0	4	78
E A Moseley c DeFreitas	10	0	1	42
Extras (6 b, 8 nb 1)	4	0	1	19
Total	446			

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-4, 6-29, 3-108, 4-227, 5-291, 6-305, 7-406, 8-411, 9-431.
BOWLING: Malcolm 33-6-142-0 (nb 2); Small 35-5-102-4; DeFreitas 29-5-89-2; (nb 14); Capel 24-5-83-3 (nb 2).

Second Innings

	6s	4s	Mins	Balls
D L Haynes not out	3	0	0	31
R B Richardson lbw b DeFreitas	82	1	6	87
C A Best c Small b Capel	12	0	1	40
A L Lorige not out	25			
Extras (6 b, 3 nb 3)	7			
Total (3 wickets)	183			

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-13, 2-80, 3-109.

England

First Innings

	6s	4s	Mins	Balls
A J Stewart c Richards b Moseley	45	0	6	78
W Larkins c Richardson b Bishop	16	0	2	19
J V A Lamb lbw b Ambrose	119	0	14	328
R A Smith c Moseley	62	0	4	246
D C Corlett c Lamb b Marshall	18	0	3	92
H P Rossiter lbw b Small	7	0	1	57
P A DeFreitas c and b Ambrose	24	1	2	51
G C Small not out	1	0	0	20
D E Malcolm c Bishop	12	0	2	15
Extras (6 b, 1 b, 3 w, 3 nb 25)	51			
Total	358			

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-1, 2-46, 3-75, 4-288, 5-297, 6-301, 7-306, 8-340, 9-340.
BOWLING: Bishop 24-3-70-4; Ambrose 25-2-82-2 (nb 10); Moseley 28-4-114-2 (nb 12, w 3); Marshall 23-5-55-2 (nb 7); Richards 9-4-14-0.
Umpires: D Archer and L Barker

90 overs per day, this series has suffered constant abuse. Up to yesterday, 103 overs had been lost to slow play, despite more than seven hours of overtime.

So ingrained upon the players is the desultory pace of progress that, on Saturday, West Indies sauntered through their overs at 11 per hour when urgently needing to press on in search of victory. England were happy to accommodate their slovenly ways, which reflected no credit on the teams needed to win the game.

West Indies have immeasurably hampered their chances with a wretched display of close fielding. Smith's six-hour 62 was a paragon of self-discipline, not least for the manner in which he kept his concentration while all around him were losing theirs.

Smith was dropped on 21, 32, 41 and 45, none of the chances being desperately difficult, but he dismissed all this from his mind and pressed ahead with his constant routine of deep breathing and stretching exercises to keep his mind on the job.

Even before their innings began, England had depended heavily on Smith and Lamb for the bulk of their runs and their century stand was the third they have shared, plus another of 80, in the only five Tests they have played together. Question their right to represent England all you like; their value to this team is incontrovertible.

When Haynes passed 50, from 62 balls, it was the first half-century of the series from either West Indian opener, which could be construed as another indication that this great side is growing tired.

Haynes, however, remains both a quality player and an abrasive competitor, and as the hot afternoon developed, with England in slow motion, he was guiding his side ever nearer an opportunity to declare.

Ards slipped into neutral gear while Lamb and Smith wove their critically brave partnership so that, in the middle session of the day, it was difficult to define which of the teams needed to win the game.

England's fourth-wicket stand of 193, an improvement of 21 on their performance at Kingston, is England's record partnership in Test matches at Bridgetown. Their previous highest partnership in nine Test matches on the ground was an opening stand of 172 between John Edrich and Geoff Boycott in 1967-68. Lamb, in his first Test as England captain, made his ninth Test 100 against West Indies, and Smith, batting for more than six hours, made his highest score against them.

In West Indies' first innings, David Capel, emulating Angus Fraser and Devon Malcolm earlier in the series, improved his best Test figures with 3 for 88.

Viv Richards was out for 12 yesterday, so he still needs 11 more runs to become the fifth man to score 8,000 runs in Test cricket, after Gary Sobers, Geoff Boycott, Sunil Gavaskar and Alvin Kallicharran.

Richards, Sunil Gavaskar, the leading run-scorer for West Indies with 8,032 Test runs to his name,

and Dennis Taylor, his partner in the last six English wickets for 61 demonstrated what might have befallen them if either of the two South Africans had gone early in the day. The follow-on would have loomed large. As it was, the deficit was trimmed beneath 100 by, of all people, Devon Malcolm, whose enraged response as a confirmed non-batsman to a series of bouncers, for which Ambrose received an official warning, was to club two successive balls through extra cover for four.

Greenidge's dismissal, leg-before to a shin-high ball, paradoxically impressed upon England the peril of their position. With the pitch certain to deteriorate further, bowling the West Indies out relatively cheaply threatened to be counter-productive, expanding their own batting time and the potential for defeat. It was a dilemma which Lamb elected to solve by bowing as few overs as possible.

Haynes and Richardson batted with a fitting air of purpose, running short singles with impressive understanding. When the ball was short and wide, as all too many were in this phase, Richardson assaulted it violently.

Once again, Malcolm was the principle volunteer for this treatment, Richardson hooking him twice for four and once, thrillingly, for six. Malcolm's 20 balls at the start of play cost 25 runs.

DeFreitas was summoned for a lengthy spell and his second over accounted for Richardson as he moved across his stumps and was leg-before to another ball creeping though wickedly low.

The first hour had produced 61 runs. Richards came in, promoting himself only because of Best's hairline fracture of the left thumb. He needed only 23 to complete 8,000 Test runs and join the elite company of Gavaskar, Boycott, Border and Sobers, but this was not his day. He had made only 12, frustratedly confined, before mis-timing an on-drive against Capel. His milestone must now wait, appropriately perhaps, for his home Test in Antigua.

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Haynes, however, remains both a quality player and an abrasive competitor, and as the hot afternoon developed, with England in slow motion, he was guiding his side ever nearer an opportunity to declare.

Ards slipped into neutral gear while Lamb and Smith wove their critically brave partnership so that, in the middle session of the day, it was difficult to define which of the teams needed to win the game.

England's fourth-wicket stand of 193, an improvement of 21 on their performance at Kingston, is England's record partnership in Test matches at Bridgetown. Their previous highest partnership in nine Test matches on the ground was an opening stand of 172 between John Edrich and Geoff Boycott in 1967-68. Lamb, in his first Test as England captain, made his ninth Test 100 against West Indies, and Smith, batting for more than six hours, made his highest score against them.

In West Indies' first innings, David Capel, emulating Angus Fraser and Devon Malcolm earlier in the series, improved his best Test figures with 3 for 88.

Viv Richards was out for 12 yesterday, so he still needs 11 more runs to become the fifth man to score 8,000 runs in Test cricket, after Gary Sobers, Geoff Boycott, Sunil Gavaskar and Alvin Kallicharran.

Richards, Sunil Gavaskar, the leading run-scorer for West Indies with 8,032 Test runs to his name,

and Dennis Taylor, his partner in the last six English wickets for 61 demonstrated what might have befallen them if either of the two South Africans had gone early in the day. The follow-on would have loomed large. As it was, the deficit was trimmed beneath 100 by, of all people, Devon Malcolm, whose enraged response as a confirmed non-batsman to a series of bouncers, for which Ambrose received an official warning, was to club two successive balls through extra cover for four.

Greenidge's dismissal, leg-before to a shin-high ball, paradoxically impressed upon England the peril of their position. With the pitch certain to deteriorate further, bowling the West Indies out relatively cheaply threatened to be counter-productive, expanding their own batting time and the potential for defeat. It was a dilemma which Lamb elected to solve by bowing as few overs as possible.

Haynes and Richardson batted with a fitting air of purpose, running short singles with impressive understanding. When the ball was short and wide, as all too many were in this phase, Richardson assaulted it violently.

Once again, Malcolm was the principle volunteer for this treatment, Richardson hooking him twice for four and once, thrillingly, for six. Malcolm's 20 balls at the start of play cost 25 runs.

DeFreitas was summoned for a lengthy spell and his second over accounted for Richardson as he moved across his stumps and was leg-before to another ball creeping though wickedly low.

The first hour had produced 61 runs. Richards came in, promoting himself only because of Best's hairline fracture of the left thumb. He needed only 23 to complete 8,000 Test runs and join the elite company of Gavaskar, Boycott, Border and Sobers, but this was not his day. He had made only 12, frustratedly confined, before mis-timing an on-drive against Capel. His milestone must now wait, appropriately perhaps, for his home Test in Antigua.

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THE TIMES

SPORT

MONDAY APRIL 9 1990

Liverpool fall in Palace coup

By Clive White

Crystal Palace 4
Liverpool 3

(act; score after 90 min, 3-3)
AGAINST all the odds, Crystal Palace successfully completed the restoration of their self respect in the most dramatic FA Cup semi-final in living memory at Villa Park yesterday. Thrashed to the point of humiliation seven months ago by Liverpool, when beaten 9-0 at Anfield, Palace gained the perfect revenge to reach their first major final in their 85-year history.

However, they must wait until Wednesday night to find out their opponents at Wembley on May 12, as the other semi-final between Manchester United and Oldham Athletic goes to a replay after a 3-3 draw yesterday.

Not even the most imaginative fiction writer could have dreamed up such a storyline and ending. The balance of power shifted back and forth, with both sides leading twice. Palace, a goal down after 14 minutes, recovered to lead with just eight minutes of normal time remaining. But within two minutes Palace were trailing again, only to force extra time with an 87th minute equalizer. The tie was eventually settled in the 109th minute with a header by Pardew, who scored his last goal in this competition five years ago for Corinthian Casuals.

Yet the first 45 minutes had supplied not a hint of the drama and surprise which was to follow. Liverpool, seemingly, had the game by the scruff of the neck and were dragging it towards its inevitable conclusion. But an equalizer after just 16 minutes of the second half had a extraordinary galvanizing effect upon Palace.

Where before Palace's football had lacked ambition and accuracy, it now repeatedly threatened Liverpool, notably at set pieces. The loss of Gillespie, with a recurrence of groin trouble, at half-time, was, perhaps, a significant one. Liverpool also lost Rush, with bruised ribs, shortly after he had put them ahead with a classic piece of finishing. Palace's attempt to play him offside were lamentable as



Final salute: Pardew celebrates the goal that decided the thrilling FA Cup semi-final at Villa Park and gave Crystal Palace a date at Wembley

McMahon, winning back possession from Pardew, bisected their defence. Rush, at the end of a diagonal run, made finishing look easy.

Even though it was the only attack of note from Liverpool in the first half, one sensed that their control was total. Within seconds of the second half the crowd of 38,389 discovered differently.

Pemberton made a penetrating run down the right and crossed to the far post, where Salako's shot was blocked by Staunton. Wright, however, volleyed the rebound straight past Gribble.

Only Gribble's rapid reactions to a close shot from Thomas prevented Liverpool from falling behind sooner than they did. Thomas and his midfield partner and look-alike Pardew, who was playing for Yeovil Town, just three years ago, began exercising even greater control over Liverpool's renowned midfield and it came as no great surprise when Palace went ahead in the 69th minute.

The free kick ordered against Hanson for a push on Bright seemed harsh. And Liverpool's vulnerability at set pieces was again underlined, as Bright won the header from Gray's free kick, leaving O'Reilly with a simple goal from close range.

Even then Palace might have won it outright in normal time, but the cross bar refused Thorne's header.

It would have been too much to expect extra time to lift us onto an even higher platter of excitement, but Palace, proving stronger than Liverpool, came pretty close. Liverpool had to face up to their first defeat in a semi-final for five years when with 11 minutes of extra time remaining, Thorne headed on a corner from Gray at the near post and Pardew rose above the Liverpool defence to head home the winner.

Steve Coppell, the Crystal Palace manager, denied that he thought that Liverpool were particularly weak in this area of their game. "It's just that set pieces provide the only time when you can guarantee getting the ball in the box. I've played Liverpool twice this year and lost 9-0 and 2-0. I was just quite happy to get a goal. To get four against the best defence - the best club - in the country gives you renewed faith in everything you're doing. It makes up for all the hard times when

Highest aggregate for 32 years

• The seven goals which Crystal Palace and Liverpool scored at Villa Park yesterday is the highest aggregate in an FA Cup semi-final for 32 years — since Manchester United beat Fulham 5-3 in a replay at Highbury in 1958.

• Palace are first-time FA Cup finalists but Steve Coppell, their manager, has been involved three times — as

a player with Manchester United. He collected a winners' medal in 1977 (v Liverpool) and losers' medals in 1976 (v Southampton) and 1979 (v Arsenal).

• For the third successive season Liverpool's hopes of a League and Cup double have been dashed by London opponents. In 1988 Wimbledon beat them 1-0 in the FA Cup final; a year later Arsenal beat

them 2-0 in the championship decider and yesterday Palace beat the league leaders.

• Yesterday's defeat was Liverpool's first in the Cup since the final against Wimbledon two years ago.

• Palace are 6-5 favourites with William Hill, the bookmakers, to win the Cup. Hill's home team odds: 5 Oldham, 5 Barnsley, S McManus.

CRYSTAL PALACE: N Martyn, J Pemberton, R Pardew, A Gray, G O'Reilly, J Thomas, P Barnes, G Thomas, M Bright, S Salako, A Pardew.

LIVERPOOL: B Gribble, G Hyen, D Burrows, G Gillespie (capt), S Veneson, J Whelan, A Thompson, P Beardmore, J Houghton, J Rush, S Sturridge, S Staunton, J Barnes, S McManus.

Referee: G Courtney.

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Modest reception for Mr Frisk

By Martin Trew

THERE was a measure of jubilation in the Berkshire village of Upper Lambourn yesterday, but it was not the all-out fiesta we expect of a village housing the Grand National winner.

This implies no criticism whatever of the team responsible for the handsome but nervy big-race winner, Mr Frisk, on Saturday. It is more that Upper Lambourn is less a village than a collection of training establishments and is simply not equipped for formal expressions of community ecstasy.

With the limited resources at its disposal, Upper Lambourn (population 1,000; all racing people) put on a good show. Impossible from the outset was any form of thanksgiving in St Luke's, the local church. It was long ago deconsecrated and now

houses the local farriery. As for the convention of parading the winning horse on the village green, Upper Lambourn has no village green.

Instead, it has one narrow lane, and it was along this in a chill wind at around noon that Mr Frisk was briefly led by his stable girl, Rachel Liron, in front of a crowd of 200 people. They cheered quietly, knowing what the consequences would be if they cheered wildly. Mr Frisk looked calm about all this and it was only when he was led back into the yard that he began to scrape the ground with a hoof, like a bull.

This was a false alarm. After a while, he relaxed again.

Among a sea of happy faces, perhaps the happiest belonged to a girl who arrived in a wheelchair and with a leg in plaster. This was Gee

Armytage, the sister of the winning jockey, Marcus Armytage. She had watched the race from a hospital bed in Shrewsbury. Such was her excitement, she had leapt out of bed, grabbed a walking frame from another patient, and embarked on a wild, hopping tour of the wards, shouting: "My brother's won the National!"

Gee Armytage, who also has two broken ribs, said: "I was cheering so much yesterday I think I may have broken a rib."

Marcus gave her a big hug before revealing how their father had predicted victory on arrival at Aintree on Saturday. Marcus said: "On the way down from Yorkshire, he'd stopped at a service station and found that he'd put his underpants on the wrong way round. He knew it would be lucky provided he

left them the way they were. He's very superstitious."

The youngest spectator at Mr Frisk's reception yesterday was Louise McKeown, aged 10 months, the daughter of a stable lad, Vince McKeown. Born on June 7, the day Nashwan won the Derby, she was now witnessing another moment in history. Being only a tot, she was speechless, but the winning jockey was not far off.

"I cannot find the words to describe what I feel," said Armytage, aged 25, an Eton-educated amateur. But finding the words is what he is paid for.

Armytage is the Newmarket correspondent for *The Racing Post* and yesterday he tapped out a 2,000-word account of his Aintree adventure for today's edition. He said: "I just hope it makes sense."

Grand National reports, pages 32 and 33

Nicklaus and Faldo are in chase together

From Mitchell Platts
Golf Correspondent
Augusta, Georgia



The fairways of Augusta National were lined by thousands of spectators here yesterday, awaiting not only the climax of the 54th Masters but also wanting to pay homage to Jack Nicklaus, who with Raymond Floyd, another American veteran, was jostling with John Huston and Nick Faldo for the traditional green jacket.

For Nicklaus, the problem, apart from pulling back the lead of five strokes Floyd held over him, was to remain composed. It was far from easy, even for one so experienced, as around every dog-leg on this undulating course he was greeted by a new wave of emotion. He was, after all, at the age of 50 years and 77 days, seeking to become the oldest winner of any one of the four major championships.

Nicklaus has been the favourite of the crowds ever since, following his early skirmishes with Arnold Palmer, he grew into his "Golden Bear" image. That support manifested itself again when on Saturday the prospect of another classic finale to the Masters began to take shape.

Floyd, swinging with the tempo of an Astaire, waltzed his way into the lead with an inward half of 31 in a round of 266, which gave him a total of 206, 10 under par.

Huston, a newcomer to the event, hoping to emulate Fuzzy Zoeller (1979) by winning on his debut, belied his inexperience by also taking 68 for 208. Faldo compiled the round of the day, a 66, equalled only by Tom Kite, which had not a blemish on it, for 209 and then came Nicklaus (69) a further two strokes adrift.

Nicklaus admitted to being surprised that so many older statesmen were on the leader board. No fewer than six of the leading 17 were aged 40 or more with Gary Player, at 54, the most senior. Player won the last of his three Masters in 1978, when he came from eight strokes behind with one round remaining. Then his playing partner was Severiano Ballesteros and 12 years on they were paired together again.

Ballesteros had rediscovered his touch on Saturday with a round of 68, although he made no impression on Floyd. He was still nine strokes adrift, as were Ronan Rafferty, Fred Couples and Tom Watson among others, all knowing it was time to do the now caution to the winds.

Bernhard Langer, sharing fifth place with Scott Hoch, added weight to the European challenge, as did José-Maria Oláizábal. Langer played nicely for his 69 for 212 and Oláizábal gathered four birdies in his last four holes for a 68 and 213. Ian Woosnam, following a 70 for 217, ap-peared too far back.

David Miller, page 37

THIRD ROUND SCORES

US entries started	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th	13th	14th	15th	16th	17th	18th	19th	20th	21st	22nd	23rd	24th	25th	26th	27th	28th	29th	30th	31st	32nd	33rd	34th	35th	36th	37th	38th	39th	40th	41st	42nd	43rd	44th	45th	46th	47th	48th	49th	50th	51st	52nd	53rd	54th	55th	56th	57th	58th	59th	60th	61st	62nd	63rd	64th	65th	66th	67th	68th	69th	70th	71st	72nd	73rd	74th	75th	76th	77th	78th	79th	80th	81st	82nd	83rd	84th	85th	86th	87th	88th	89th	90th	91st	92nd	93rd	94th	95th	96th	97th	98th	99th	100th	101st	102nd	103rd	104th	105th	106th	107th	108th	109th	110th	111th	112th	113th	114th	115th	116th	117th	118th	119th	120th	121st	122nd	123rd	124th	125th	126th	127th	128th	129th	130th	131st	132nd	133rd	134th	135th	136th	137th	138th	139th	140th	141st	142nd	143rd	144th	145th	146th	147th	148th	149th	150th	151st	152nd	153rd	154th	155th	156th	157th	158th	159th	160th	161st	162nd	163rd	164th	165th	166th	167th	168th	169th	170th	171st	172nd	173rd	174th	175th	176th	177th	178th	179th	18